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FOOTBALL MAGAZINE



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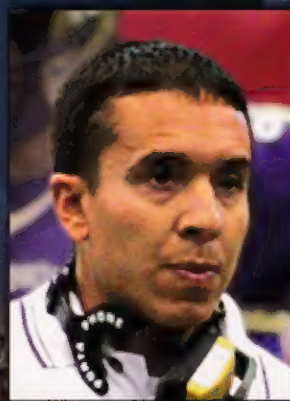
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Thatcher



Nemer Hassey
Cienega



Richard Sanchez
Sunnyside



Jay Campos
Sabino

Globe
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Safford
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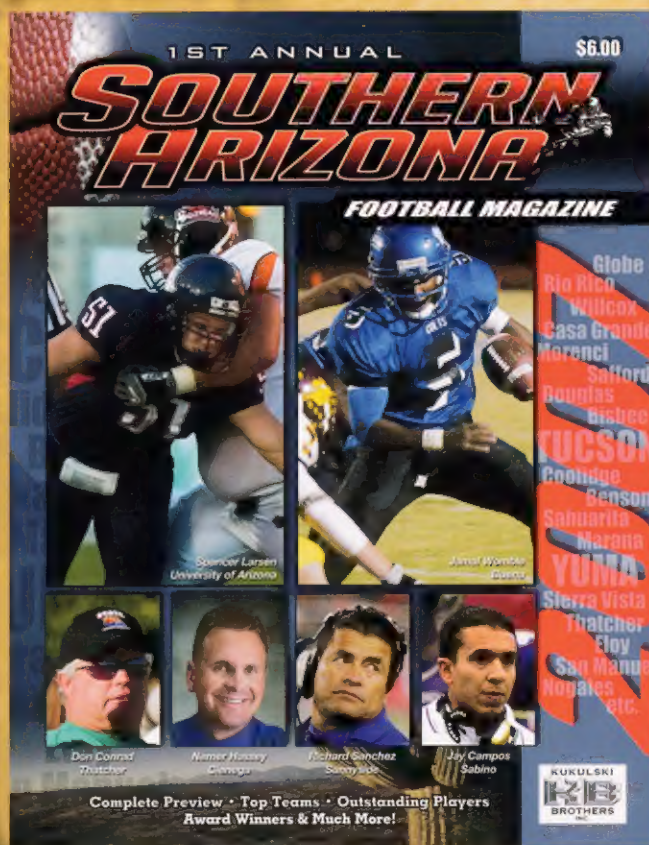
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Friday Night Heroes

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QBBen Johnson, Marana Mt. View, 6-0, 180, Sr.
 QBMiguel Maldonado, Nogales, 6-0, 185, Sr.
 QBDaniel Nicholas, Canyon del Oro, 6-3, 185, Sr.
 QBJustin Smith, Safford, 6-0, 180, Jr.
 RBD'juan Cherry, Ironwood Ridge, 5-10, 185, Sr.
 RBAndy Garcia, Nogales, 5-11, 175, Jr.
 RBBrad Jackson, Coolidge, 5-11, 210, Sr.
 RBBrandon Hall, Cibola, 5-11, 180, Sr.
 RBRonald Hopper, Amphitheater, 5-10, 175, Sr.
 RBDenver Householder, Thatcher, 5-10, 185, Sr.
 RBDan Moore, Marana Mt. View, 5-11, 215, Sr.
 RBJovan Stevenson, Sunnyside, 5-10, 185, Sr.
 RBJamal Womble, Buena, 5-11, 215, Sr.
 WRPaul Carrizoza, Cienega, 5-8, 160, Sr.
 WRJames Eichberger, Catalina, 5-10, 160, Sr.
 WRAdam Hall, Palo Verde, 6-2, 180, Jr.
 WRWilson Reuter, Tucson, 5-11, 170, Sr.
 TEAndrew Ashford, Coolidge, 5-11, 180, Sr.
 LTony Ammon, Benson, 6-2, 205, Sr.
 LHugo Blanco, Sunnyside, 6-2, 240, Sr.
 LRyan Cunningham, Casa Grande, 6-1, 268, Sr.
 LZach Davila, Cienega, 6-4, 290, Sr.
 LWes Hohman, Ironwood Ridge, 6-3, 240, Sr.
 LBrent Lush, Canyon del Oro, 5-10, 230, Sr.
 LJonathan McCroy, Palo Verde, 6-3, 270, Sr.
 LJay Nottingham, Sabino, 6-2, 275, Sr.
 LNick Ryan, Rincon, 6-5, 255, Sr.
 LLucas Volk, Sabino, 6-3, 245, Sr.
 LBDanny Alvarez, Sahuar, 6-1, 210, Sr.
 LBHarnish Ayora, Casa Grande, 6-0, 195, Sr.
 LBJake Fischer, Ironwood Ridge, 5-11, 210, Jr.
 LBLucas Gregor, Salpointe Catholic, 6-4, 215, Sr.
 LBMoses Roberts, Salpointe Catholic, 5-10, 190, Sr.
 LBA.J. Willis, Desert View, 6-0, 204, Sr.
 DBJoe Bass, Tucson, 5-10, 175, Sr.



Thatcher's Denver Householder is back to ignite the Eagles as they attempt to defend their 2A state championship (Paynter Pics).

DBAndric Booker, Palo Verde, 5-10, 150, Sr.
 DBJake Muasau, Buena, 6-2, 205, Sr.
 DBCam Roland, Miami, 6-2, 180, Sr.
 DBRobert Rowe, Marana, 6-2, 185, Sr.
 KCharles Blase, Salpointe Catholic, 5-11, 170, Sr.

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2007 Conference/Region Alignment

5A CONFERENCE

CENTRAL A (Div. 1)

Basha (2476), Corona del Sol (2791), Desert Vista (2931), Mountain Pointe (2540)

DESERT VALLEY (Div. 1)

Brophy Prep (2532), Desert Mountain (2528), Mountain Ridge (2498), St. Mary's (846), Xavier Prep (2320)

EAST VALLEY (Div. 1)

Dobson (3087), Mesa (3498), Mesa Mountain View (3650), Red Mountain (3770), Westwood (3200)

FIESTA (Div. 1)

Chandler (3060), Gilbert (3223), Hamilton (3182), Highland (2854), Mesquite (3239)

METRO (Div. 1)

Alhambra (2991), Cesar Chavez (2458), Maryvale (2594), North Canyon (2532), Trevor Browne (2957)

SOUTHERN A (Div. 1)

Buena (2807), Casa Grande (3164), Salpointe Catholic (1218), Tucson (2930)

5A CONFERENCE

CENTRAL B (Div. 2)

Desert Ridge (2249), Horizon (2461), Marcos de Niza (2010), Pinnacle (2018), Skyline (2395)

DESERT WEST (Div. 2)

Centennial (2272), Ironwood (2180), La Joya (2331), Sunrise Mountain (2156), Tolleson (2212), Westview (2233)

GILA VALLEY (Div. 2)

Cibola (2382), Gila Ridge (2025), Kofa (2764), San Luis (2163), Yuma (2300)

METRO (Div. 2)

Betty Fairfax (2000), Camelback (2146), Carl Hayden (2353), Central (2312), North (2603), South Mountain (2232)

NORTHWEST (Div. 2)

Barry Goldwater (2126), Boulder Creek (2164), Deer Valley (2191), Kingman (2304), Valley Vista (2029), Willow Canyon (2283)

SOUTHERN B (Div. 2)

Ironwood Ridge (1959), Marana Mountain View (2202), Rincon (2015), Sunnyside (2386)

4A CONFERENCE

DESERT SKY (Div. 1)

Apache Junction (1810), Cactus Shadows (1711), Chaparral (1911), McClintock (1912), Paradise Valley (1745), Saguaro (1647), Shadow Mountain (1841)

KINO (Div. 1)

Cienega (1805), Desert View (1731), Flowing Wells (1929), Nogales (1855), Sabino (1560), Sahuaro (1840)

SONORAN (Div. 1)

Canyon del Oro (1767), Catalina Foothills (1843), Cholla (1827), Marana (1884), Pueblo (1971)

WESTERN SKY (Div. 1)

Apollo (1849), Independence (1854), Sandra Day O'Connor (1868), Prescott (1930), Sunnyslope (1758), Thunderbird (1801)

WEST VALLEY (Div. 1)

Agua Fria (1838), Cactus (1818), Copper Canyon (1750), Lake Havasu (1945), Liberty (1805), Millennium (1768), Peoria (1796)

4A CONFERENCE

GILA (Div. 2)

Amphitheater (1602), Catalina (1571), Douglas (1345), Palo Verde (1557), Rio Rico (1098), Sahuarita (1253), Santa Rita (1286)

BLACK CANYON (Div. 2)

Cortez (1361), Glendale (1611), Greenway (1694), Moon Valley (1719), Notre Dame Prep (852), Washington (1585)

EAST SKY (Div. 2)

Arcadia (1381), Coronado (1333), Higley (1662), Perry (1800), Queen Creek (1554), Seton Catholic (515), Tempe (1361), Williams Field (1771)

SKYLINE (Div. 2)

Buckeye (1642), Desert Edge (1621), Dysart (1631), Raymond Kellis (1728), Mohave (1639), Verrado (1650), Youngker (1347)

GRAND CANYON (Div. 2)

Bradshaw Mountain (1681), Coconino (1326), Flagstaff (1407), Mingus Union (1309), Page (1151), Sinagua (1035)

3A CONFERENCE

EAST

Alchesay (605), Blue Ridge (922), Payson (888), Round Valley (548), Show Low (853), Snowflake (767)

NORTH

Chinle (1154), Ganado (702), Holbrook (741), Monument Valley (924), Tuba City (913), Window Rock (875), Winslow (868)

SOUTH

Coolidge (955), Empire (675), Florence (1150), Fountain Hills (884), Globe (658), Maricopa (880), Safford (810), Santa Cruz (515)

WEST

Chino Valley (792), Estrella Foothills (945), Parker (572), River Valley (888), Sedona Red Rock (559), South Pointe (678), Wickenburg (632)

2A CONFERENCE

CENTRAL

Camp Verde (496), Canyon State (368), Horizon

Honors (352), North Point Prep (355), Northwest Christian (387), Phoenix Country Day (260), Scottsdale Christian (376), Valley Christian (410)

EAST

Benson (414), Bisbee (396), Desert Christian (242), Morenci (273), Thatcher (407), Tombstone (362), Willcox (487)

NORTH

Greyhills (488), Hopi (557), Many Farms (449), Pinon (379), Red Mesa (362), Rough Rock (246), St. Johns (348), Valley (395)

SOUTH

Baboquivari (292), Hayden (145), Miami (366), Pusch Ridge Christian (397), Ray (222), San Carlos (363), San Manuel (350), Superior (157)

WEST

Antelope (394), Arizona Lutheran (187), Bourgade Catholic (411), Phoenix Christian (329), Precision (733), Tonopah Valley (335), Westwind Prep (280), Yuma Catholic (364)

1A CONFERENCE

EAST

Bowie (24), Cibecue (126), Clifton (41), Duncan (148), East Fork (77), Ft. Thomas (182), Pima (188), San Simon (48)

NORTH

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SOUTH

Academy of Tucson (173), Ajo (162), ASDB (129), Gila Bend (156), Green Fields (78), Immaculate Heart (60), Lourdes Catholic (97), Patagonia (85), St. Augustine (112), St. David (149), St. Gregory (188), Tanque Verde (190), Tohono o'Odham (82), Valley Union (165)

WEST

Bagdad (150), Joy Christian (150), Mayer (207), PDSD (58), Salome (131), Salt River (210), San Pasqual (171), St. Paul's (92), Surrey Garden (68), Tempe Prep (211), Orme (155), Valley Lutheran (148), Verde Valley (118), Veritas Prep (138)

Enrollment numbers listed for each school.

In some cases, those numbers are estimated, especially with new schools. Enrollment figures for single-sex schools are doubled.

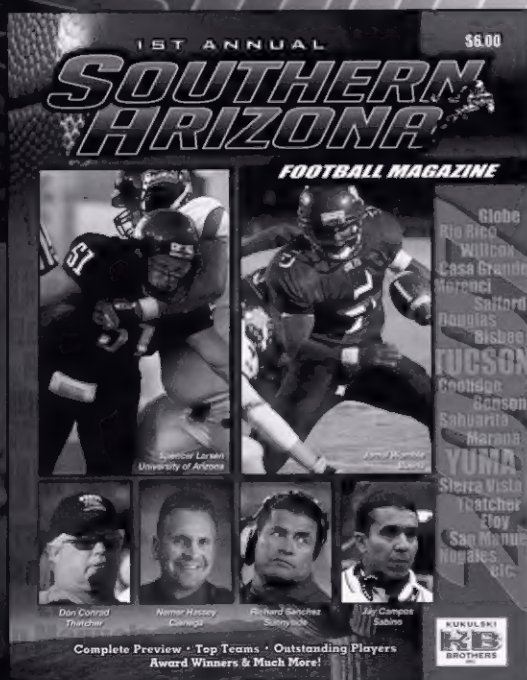
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The 2007 Southern Arizona Football Magazine was published by Kukulski Brothers Inc., 2127 S. Priest Drive, Suite 404, Tempe, AZ 85282. Phone 480-921-1975. Advertising sales by Dan Kukulski and David Kukulski. Written and edited by David Kukulski, Pam Kukulski, Andy Kukulski and Lindsey Kukulski. Artwork by Andy Kukulski, Lindsey Kukulski, Daniel Navarrette and Ramon Villa. Distributed by Larry Kukulski, Debbie Kukulski and Michael Turner. Photography by Paynter Pics, J and L Photography and Andy Kukulski. We dedicate this 1st Annual Edition to our friend and business associate, the late Barry Sollenberger.

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Wildcats Looking to Climb Pac-10 Ladder

First Bowl Game During Stoops Era a Distinct Possibility!

2007 SCHEDULE

Sept. 1at Brigham Young
 Sept. 8Northern Arizona
 Sept. 15New Mexico
 Sept. 22at California
 Sept. 29Washington State
 Oct. 6at Oregon State
 Oct. 13at USC
 Oct. 20Stanford
 Oct. 27at Washington
 Nov. 3UCLA
 Nov. 15Oregon
 Dec. 1at Arizona State

By David Kukulski

The Cats are coming back!

When he was hired in November of 2003, Mike Stoops inherited a football program that had fallen on hard times.

He immediately showed he could recruit and began to bring better athletes to Tucson. He also watched his first two clubs finish with identical 3-8 marks, knowing his Wildcats were a play here and a play there from being a much better team.

In the second half of the 2006 campaign, the months and months of hard work began to pay off. UofA became a giant killer, knocking off Pac-10 foes Washington State, California and Oregon in consecutive contests.

Everyone knows a 6-6 ledger is a big step up from 3-8.

So what lies ahead in 2007?

Most Pac-10 experts predict the Cats will put together a winning mark and play in a bowl game for the first time in many years. Good things usually happen to teams that return 44 lettermen, including an impressive 19 starters.

As you may know, Stoops has made significant changes to try to spark his less-than-spectacular offensive attack. In fact, Arizona posted very modest averages of 17 points and 253 total offense yards per game last fall.



UofA Head Coach Mike Stoops discusses a call with an official during the 2006 campaign. Stoops is entering his fourth year at the helm of the Wildcat football program (photo by J&L Photography).

Sonny Dykes, of recent Texas Tech fame, was hired as the offensive coordinator to help push those numbers to much more respectable levels. And his track record says he'll do exactly that.

The stats for returning quarterback Willie Tuitama should take a big jump this year. The 6-3, 220-pound junior passed for 1,335 yards and seven TDs last year. He connected on 56% of his throws. Of course, he battled some concussion problems that limited his playing time in the first half of the season, but he should do much better in 2007.

With the Dykes system in place, UofA is going to throw the ball a lot more out of multiple formations. That means wide-outs Mike Thomas (5-8, 175, Jr.) and Anthony Johnson (6-2, 210, Sr.) are going to see the pigskin more frequently.

As a sophomore in 2006, Thomas gathered in 50 passes for 597 yards and two scores. Johnson contributed 26 catches for 312 yards and three TDs. Youngsters like redshirt freshmen Terrell Turner (6-2, 175), Terrell Reese (6-4, 210) and Delashaun Dean (6-4, 198) will have every

opportunity to show what they can do. Junior Travis Bell (6-6, 245) and redshirt freshman A.J. Simmons (6-3, 255) are battling for the starting nod at tight end.

Arizona's running backs are unproven. Former walk-on Chris Jennings (5-10, 225, Sr.) had a nice 2006 season, scampering for 451 yards rushing. Backups Xavier Smith (5-11, 199, So.), Terry Longbons (5-11, 200, So.) and Glyndon Bolasky (6-0, 205, Fr.) arrived on campus with great credentials, but they still must show they can compete at this level. Smith did run for 120 yards last year. The starting H-Back is sophomore Earl Mitchell (6-2, 250), a fine blocker and a capable receiver.

The young offensive line that took its lumps last year has grown up. All five starters – LT Peter Graniello (6-5, 296, Sr.), LG Daniel Borg (6-5, 276, So.), C Blake Kerley (6-2, 275, So.), RG Joe Longacre (6-3, 303, Jr.) and RT Eben Britton (6-6, 290, So.) – return and that should be a big plus for this year's squad. The Cats must continue to develop quality depth here. Somebody needs to push the starters and be ready to step in if injuries occur.



Mike Thomas stretches for the end zone against UCLA. Thomas registered 50 receptions last year and will play an very important role for the Cats in 2007 (photo by J&L Photography).

On the other side of the football, UofA has few problems. Defensive coordinator Mark Stoops has done a fine job; his guys have demonstrated talent, heart, speed and physical play.

With the Wildcat offense struggling for most the season, last year's defense allowed just 20 points and 326 yards per game. They had 26 takeaways and 15 sacks.

Seniors Louis Holmes, Spencer Larsen and Antoine Cason are the leaders. All three are candidates for conference and national honors.

Holmes, a 6-6, 270-pound defensive end, transferred from Scottsdale Community College a year ago. He went through his transition year to Division I football in 2006 and posted respectable numbers – 36 tackles, four sacks, two forced fumbles and one fumble recovery. He'll be much better this time out.

Larsen is a 6-1, 236-pound linebacker who led Arizona in tackles last season. He totaled 89 tackles (10.5 for losses), two sacks, one interception, three recovered fumbles and two forced fumbles. He's one of those players that seems to be everywhere and really disrupts what the other team is trying to do.

Cason (6-1, 182) might be the most talented player on the team. He's a great cover corner who was in on 62 stops last year. He also snagged three interceptions,

even though the opposition didn't throw the ball his way too much.

Assisting Cason in the secondary are holdover starters Wilrey Fontenot (5-9, 174, Sr.) and Dominic Patrick (6-1, 207, Sr.). Fontenot plays the corner opposite Cason and Patrick returns at free safety. Cam Nelson (6-1, 180, So.), Brandon Tatum (6-1, 181, So.) and Michael Klyece

(6-0, 193, Jr.) are competing for the open spot at strong safety.

Besides Larsen, the linebacking corps features junior Ronnie Palmer (6-3, 239) in the middle and senior Dane Krogstad (6-2, 236) on the strong side.

Palmer had 69 tackles and two picks, while Krogstad had 41 stops and one interception. This is a good set of linebackers, but quality depth is once again an issue. Wildcat fans are hoping Larsen, Palmer and Krogstad can stay healthy.

Holmes has plenty of help on the defensive front. Junior DE Johnathan Turner (6-3, 250) teams with senior tackles Yaniv Barnett (6-1, 285) and Lionel Dotson (6-4, 278) to form a top-caliber line.

Dotson had 31 tackles, including one sack, last year. Turner showed 18 stops, including two for negative yardage. Barnett also had 18 tackles and recovered a fumble.

The punting chores should go to red-shirt freshman Keenyn Crier, while the placekicking duties belong to junior Jason Bondzio right now. Alex Zendejas, a talented freshman from Ironwood High School in Glendale, could be a factor in the kicking game.

Mike Thomas, Mike Turner, B.J. Dennard, Chris Jennings and possibly soph Devin Ross are leading candidates for kickoff and punt returns.

The schedule is not particularly kind – with the opener on the road against BYU, along with away games against Pac-10 rivals California, Oregon State, USC, Washington and ASU.

2007 WILDCAT RECRUITS

QB	Bryson Beirne	6-3, 215, Fr	Honolulu, HI
RB	Joseph Reese	6-2, 190, Fr	Pflugerville, TX
WR	Caleb Charlow	5-11, 165, Fr	San Marcos, CA
WR	David Roberts	6-0, 174, Fr	Rancho Cucamonga, CA
ATH	Nicolas Grigsby	5-10, 178, Fr	Santa Fe Springs, CA
ATH	Devin Veal	5-11, 161, Fr	Sierra Vista, AZ
ATH	William Wright	5-10, 170, Fr	Pauls Valley, OK
TE	Rob Gronkowski	6-6, 232, Fr	Pittsburgh, PA
DE	Lavar Brown	6-3, 240, Fr	Rosenberg, TX
DE	Ron Jackson	6-3, 210, Fr	Carrollton, TX
DT	Hans Phillipp	6-1, 282, Fr	San Bernardino, CA
DT	Kaniela Tuipulotu	6-1, 280, Fr	Kahuku, HI
LB	Apalata Tulhalamaka	6-3, 205, Fr	Gardena, CA
LB	Vuna Tulhalamaka	6-1, 220, Jr	Torrance, CA
DB	Marquis Hundley	6-0, 185, Jr	Santa Rosa, CA
DB	Joseph Perkins	6-2, 195, Jr	Torrance, CA
DB	Trevin Wade	5-10, 163, Fr	Round Rock, TX
K	Alex Zendejas	5-11, 175, Fr	Glendale, AZ

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Casa Grande High School.....9	Nogales High School.....11	Yuma High School.....10
Catalina High School.....11	Palo Verde High School.....11	Yuma Catholic High School.....15
Cibola High School.....10	Ray High School.....15	
Cienega High School.....11	Rincon High School.....10	
Coolidge High School.....13	Sabino High School.....10	
Desert View High School.....11	Safford High School.....13	
Douglas High School.....11	Sahuaro High School.....10	
Empire High School.....13	Salpointe Catholic High School.....8	
Florence High School.....13	San Carlos High School.....15	
Fort Thomas High School.....15	San Luis High School.....10	
Gila Bend High School.....15	San Manuel High School.....14	

The Southern Arizona Football Magazine relies heavily on our Coaches Questionnaire to obtain information for use in this publication. If your favorite high school isn't listed, we never received a response from your coach or athletic director to our questionnaire. Therefore, we were not able to write an accurate profile of your team for inclusion in this magazine.

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Checklist of Players

QUARTERBACKS

Chris Aaron, Thatcher, 6-2, 180, Sr.
 Cash Clemans, Florence, 5-10, 155, Sr.
 Adam Deredita, Empire, 5-10, 170, Sr.
 Demetris Dosela, Ft. Thomas, 6-0, 185, Sr.
 Brandon Gilliard, Desert View, 6-1, 198, Jr.
 Kevin Grenier, Salpointe, 6-4, 210, Sr.
 Jordan Huerta, Ray, 6-4, 185, Sr.
 Eric Inman, Yuma Catholic, 6-1, 175, Jr.
 Ben Johnson, Marana Mt. View, 6-0, 180, Sr.
 Jordan Landwealen, Valley Union, 6-0, 175, Sr.
 Miguel Maldonado, Nogales, 6-0, 185, Sr.
 Chance Mixon, Antelope, 6-1, 170, Jr.
 Chris Munsey, Bisbee, 6-2, 285, Sr.
 Daniel Nicholas, Canyon del Oro, 6-3, 185, Sr.
 Matt Phelps, San Manuel, 6-0, 155, So.
 Chris Randall, Miami, 6-0, 175, Sr.
 Justin Reyes, Morenci, 6-0, 160, Jr.
 Justin Smith, Safford, 6-0, 180, Jr.
 Tommy Stubbins, Rincon, 6-0, 180, Sr.
 Jordan Underhill, Sahuaro, 6-0, 190, Sr.
 Jaime Valdez, Sunnyside, 6-3, 170, Sr.

RUNNING BACKS

Larry Andersen, Florence, 5-9, 170, Sr.
 Tyrell Andrews, Safford, 5-8, 165, Sr.
 JC Baker, Yuma, 5-6, 150, So.
 Scott Brown, Sabino, 6-1, 200, Jr.
 Pat Carn, Santa Cruz, 6-1, 190, Sr.
 D'juan Cherry, Ironwood Ridge, 5-10, 185, Sr.
 James Phillips, San Carlos, 5-7, 210, Sr.
 Andy Garcia, Nogales, 5-11, 175, Jr.
 Ed Gonzalez, Gila Bend, 5-10, 165, Sr.
 Steve Gonzales, Bisbee, 5-8, 165, Jr.
 Robert Grant, Palo Verde, 5-9, 170, Sr.
 Brandon Hall, Cibola, 5-11, 180, Sr.
 Ernesto Hernandez, 5-6, 160, Sr.
 Omar Hernandez, Antelope, 5-6, 160, Sr.
 Ronald Hopper, Amphi, 5-10, 175, Sr.
 Denver Householder, Thatcher, 5-10, 185, Sr.
 Wes Knight, Cienega, 6-1, 190, Sr.
 Joseph Lopez, Hayden, 5-10, 190, Sr.
 Eric Martinez, Yuma Catholic, 5-9, 200, Sr.
 Luis Martinez, Valley Union, 5-10, 175, Sr.
 John McCormick, Yuma, 5-9, 180, Sr.
 Dan Moore, Marana Mt. View, 5-11, 215, Sr.
 Noel Nosie, Ft. Thomas, 5-8, 175, Sr.
 Irving Quezada, Willcox, 5-9, 170, Sr.
 Nick Rodriguez, Nogales, 5-7, 160, Sr.
 Cam Roland, Miami, 6-2, 180, Sr.
 Mario Romero, Ray, 5-9, 155, Sr.
 Jovan Stevenson, Sunnyside, 5-10, 185, Sr.
 Darryl Thomas, Safford, 5-11, 165, Sr.
 Brady Wager, Globe, 6-0, 180, Jr.
 Jamal Womble, Buena, 5-11, 215, Sr.
 Fabian Zazueta, Marana, 5-11, 175, Sr.

WIDE RECEIVERS

Brian Badgely, Yuma Catholic, 6-0, 180, Sr.
 Paul Carrizoza, Cienega, 5-8, 160, Sr.
 James Eichberger, Catalina, 5-10, 160, Sr.
 Rod Ford, Yuma Catholic, 6-2, 175, Jr.
 Adam Hall, Palo Verde, 6-2, 180, Jr.

WIDE RECEIVERS (cont)

J.J. Holiday, Santa Rita, 6-0, 150, Jr.
 Marc Jackson, Desert View, 5-10, 184, Sr.
 Dominique Keeton, Casa Grande, 6-3, 175, Sr.
 Eddy Lopez, Nogales, 5-11, 175, Sr.
 Ray Nettling, Canyon del Oro, 5-10, 185, Sr.
 Colten Phillips, Globe, 6-0, 175, Sr.
 Christian Quintanilla, Santa Rita, 6-0, 140, Sr.
 Wilson Reuter, Tucson, 5-11, 170, Sr.
 Luis Rodriguez, Gila Bend, 6-0, 175, Sr.
 Jacob Snyder, Cibola, 5-11, 170, Jr.

TIGHT ENDS

Andrew Ashford, Coolidge, 5-11, 180, Sr.
 Joe Bortano, Canyon del Oro, 6-2, 200, Sr.
 Josh Garcia, Empire, 5-10, 200, Sr.
 Charles Hill, Douglas, 6-2, 285, Sr.
 Eric House, Tucson, 6-5, 220, Sr.
 Mike Rodriguez, Palo Verde, 6-2, 200, Sr.
 Brandon Schroder, San Luis, 6-0, 180, Sr.
 Nick Stewart, Buena, 6-2, 225, Sr.

LINEMEN

Robert Amaya, San Luis, 5-10, 207, Sr.
 Tony Ammon, Benson, 6-2, 205, Sr.
 Jason Baca, Safford, 6-2, 255, Sr.
 Jesse Backerman, Marana, 6-4, 235, Sr.
 Manny Bejarano, Globe, 6-0, 205, Jr.
 Michael Beton, San Carlos, 5-11, 240, Sr.
 Hugo Blanco, Sunnyside, 6-2, 240, Sr.
 Will Campos, Casa Grande, 6-1, 220, Sr.
 Miguel Cazares, Santa Cruz, 6-1, 250, Sr.
 Arthur Cervantes, Buena, 5-11, 240, Sr.
 Marcus Cools, Palo Verde, 6-6, 270, Sr.
 Ryan Cunningham, Casa Grande, 6-1, 268, Sr.
 Mick Curley, Morenci, 6-0, 280, Sr.
 Zach Davila, Cienega, 6-4, 290, Sr.
 Clay Gillespie, Coolidge, 6-2, 220, Jr.
 Derek Gonzales, Coolidge, 5-10, 200, Sr.
 Thomas Greer, San Manuel, 5-10, 215, Sr.
 Wyn Henderson, Coolidge, 5-10, 220, Sr.
 Wes Hohman, Ironwood Ridge, 6-3, 240, Sr.
 Brett Jividen, Sahuaro, 6-4, 250, Sr.
 Hassib Kushkoki, Catalina, 6-0, 210, Sr.
 Kyle Lundeen, Marana, 6-3, 243, Sr.
 Brent Lush, Canyon del Oro, 5-10, 230, Sr.
 Jorge Mazon, Sunnyside, 5-9, 235, Jr.
 Jonathan McCroy, Palo Verde, 6-3, 270, Sr.
 Robert McHugh, Mar. Mt. View, 6-0, 200, Sr.
 Jeb Melcher, Miami, 5-10, 210, Jr.
 Pete Nevarez, Gila Bend, 5-10, 200, Sr.
 David Nicholas, Thatcher, 6-0, 195, Sr.
 Jay Nottingham, Sabino, 6-2, 275, Sr.
 Sterling Nymeier, Mar. Mt. View, 6-3, 225, Sr.
 Pat O'Sullivan, Marana Mt. View, 6-0, 195, Sr.
 Derrell Palmer, Palo Verde, 6-5, 270, Sr.
 David Rodriguez, San Manuel, 6-0, 218, Sr.
 Joaquin Rojas, Tucson, 6-4, 250, Sr.
 Nick Ryan, Rincon, 6-5, 255, Sr.
 John Saylor, Buena, 6-1, 245, Jr.
 Martin Valdez, Yuma, 5-7, 180, Sr.
 Lucas Volk, Sabino, 6-3, 245, Sr.

LINEBACKERS

David Alexander, Buena, 5-10, 200, Sr.
 Danny Alvarez, Sahuaro, 6-1, 210, Sr.
 Harnish Ayora, Casa Grande, 6-0, 195, Sr.
 Michael Bradley, Yuma, 5-11, 175, Jr.
 Frank Chavez, Thatcher, 6-0, 200, Sr.
 Austin Colman, Miami, 6-0, 190, Jr.
 Sergio Dagnino-Rivera, Bisbee, 6-0, 180, So.
 Alejandro Estrada, Hayden, 5-10, 180, Sr.
 Jake Fischer, Ironwood Ridge, 5-11, 210, Jr.
 Lucas Gregor, Salpointe, 6-4, 215, Sr.
 Mike Guerrero, Santa Cruz, 5-11, 190, Sr.
 Chris Hare, Sabino, 6-0, 200, Sr.
 Bryant Innes, Thatcher, 6-1, 190, Sr.
 Voss Jayce, Morenci, 5-10, 175, Sr.
 Casey Johnson, Catalina, 5-11, 170, Sr.
 Ryan Jones, San Carlos, 5-10, 190, Sr.
 Travis Malboeuf, Rincon, 5-11, 185, Sr.
 Brandon Mazzola, Cienega, 5-9, 180, Sr.
 Armand Morales, Morenci, 5-10, 165, Sr.
 Zoar Morales, Catalina, 5-10, 195, Sr.
 Carlos Navarro, Nogales, 6-1, 190, Sr.
 Jairo Pena, Douglas, 5-11, 230, Sr.
 Ryan Perce, Cibola, 5-11, 190, Sr.
 Rene Robles, Desert View, 5-11, 200, Sr.
 Moses Roberts, Salpointe, 5-10, 190, Sr.
 Dom San Angelo, Sahuaro, 6-0, 180, Sr.
 Luis Sanchez, Willcox, 6-0, 190, Sr.
 Josh Tamayo, Cibola, 6-0, 195, Sr.
 Mark Tamayo, San Manuel, 5-11, 165, Sr.
 A.J. Willis, Desert View, 6-0, 204, Sr.

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Lee Abrahams, Desert View, 5-10, 187, Sr.
 Manny Aguilar, Sunnyside, 5-10, 185, Jr.
 Joe Bass, Tucson, 5-10, 175, Sr.
 Andric Booker, Palo Verde, 5-10, 150, Sr.
 Kenny Brown, Valley Union, 5-9, 180, Sr.
 Gonzalo Contreras, San Luis, 5-9, 170, Sr.
 Jesus Dagnino, Bisbee, 5-7, 165, Sr.
 Zach Dietrich, Cienega, 5-6, 150, Sr.
 Mark Dragoslovich, Sabino, 5-11, 180, Sr.
 Ramon Figueroa, Hayden, 5-8, 170, Sr.
 Rudy Figueroa, Hayden, 5-9, 170, Sr.
 Tober Francom, Globe, 5-11, 200, Sr.
 Chris Lopez, Ironwood Ridge, 5-11, 185, Sr.
 Bryan Marchbanks, Rincon, 5-9, 165, Sr.
 Andy Martinez, Florence, 5-9, 165, Sr.
 Jake Muasau, Buena, 6-2, 205, Sr.
 Steve Radler, Ironwood Ridge, 5-9, 170, Sr.
 Martin Rodriguez, Salpointe, 5-11, 180, Sr.
 Tyler Romack, Empire, 6-0, 175, Sr.
 Robert Rowe, Marana, 6-2, 185, Sr.

KICKERS/PUNTERS

Cody Barber, Coolidge, 6-0, 175, Sr.
 Bobby Bird, Sabino, 5-10, 175, Sr.
 Charles Blase, Salpointe, 5-11, 170, Sr.

Salpointe, Sunnyside 5A Favorites Sabino, Palo Verde Get 4A Nods

Coach Dennis Bene appears to have another state contender at **SALPOINTE CATHOLIC**. Gone is Kris O'Dowd, Southern Arizona Player of the Year and Arizona Lineman of the Year (see pages 12 and 32AZ). He'll suit up for Southern Cal this year.

But the Lancers are still a powerful squad. Headliners include honors candidates Lucas Gregor, Kevin Grenier, Martin Rodriguez, Charles Blase and Moses Roberts – all seniors.

Gregor (6-4, 215) plays outside linebacker and tight end. Grenier (6-4, 210) is the quarterback. Rodriguez (5-11, 180) is a major contributor at wide receiver and defensive back. Blase (5-11, 170) is a double threat at placekicker and punter. Roberts (5-10, 190) is a defensive specialist at linebacker or strong safety.

The quickest of the Lancers – Mike Desciscio (5-10, 160, Jr.) – and Kyle McCartin (5-10, 180, Sr.) are the chief running backs. Senior Chris Miller (5-9, 180) could see some duty in the backfield, although he'll spend a lot of his time at linebacker.

Two-way linemen Chris Claxton (6-1, 260, Jr.), Bryce Rodriguez (6-2, 260, Jr.) and Matt Spear (6-2, 260, Jr.) will make their presence known.

Altogether, Salpointe returns 26 lettermen from last year's 10-2 club that reached



Salpointe's WR/DB Martin Rodriguez (#22) breaks up a pass against Brophy Prep in the 2006 rivalry game (Paynter Pics).

the 5A-1 quarterfinals. Bene's record now stands at 56-15 for the Lancers, who have won 33 of their last 35 region contests.

A couple of major college prospects are the prime movers at **BUENA**, where Coach

Michael Vezzosi hopes his Colts can take a good run at the 5A-1 state playoffs.

Womble, a 5-11, 215-pound senior, has great speed (4.41) and is being recruited by a number of big-time Division I powers.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2006-2007 SALPOINTE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STATE CHAMPIONS!

MEN'S TENNIS
WOMEN'S TENNIS
WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY
MEN'S GOLF (STATE RUNNER-UP)



"WE'RE GOING TO TELL YOU SOMETHING TONIGHT,
ABOUT THE TEAM THAT YOU'RE GOING TO FIGHT.
WE'RE THE LANCERS, SALPOINTE HIGH,
IF WE DON'T WIN WE'RE WILLING TO TRY!
OUT ON THE FIELD WE'RE READY TO FIGHT, (FIGHT!)
WE'RE GOING TO FIGHT WITH FULL FORCE AND MIGHT, (MIGHT!)
WIN OR LOSE WE'LL STICK TOGETHER,
ONWARD TO VICTORY!

LANCERS, LANCERS, LET'S TAKE STATE IN 2007-2008!"



Before he makes his way to any college campus, he'll play running back and either defensive back or linebacker for Buena.

Muasau (6-2, 205) is a two-way performer at wide receiver and defensive back. He's a real standout in the secondary, covering a lot of ground with his 4.5 speed.

Also returning from last year's 6-4 unit are TE/DE Nick Stewart (6-2, 225, Sr.), OL/DL Arthur Cervantes (5-11, 240, Sr.), OL/DL Jon Saylor (6-1, 245, Jr.), FB/LB David Alexander (5-10, 200, Sr.), DB/K/P Russell Klabough (6-3, 180, Sr.), DE/OL Scott Adams (5-11, 208, So.), DE/OL Joe Arnason (6-4, 240, Sr.) and WR/DB Nathan Tuggle (6-0, 175).

Newcomers of note are TE/DE Derek Lane (6-2, 195, Jr.) and QB Taylor Stone (6-3, 210, Jr.). It could be a good year in Sierra Vista.

CASA GRANDE has a good group coming back this year. Eleven letterwinners return from a team that won eight of 10 outings before bowing to Mesa Mountain View in the first round of the 5A-1 state playoffs. Members of last year's 6-3 JV could also be of assistance.

Coach Tracy Stuart has first-class running backs like Harnish Ayora (6-0, 195), Clay Martinez (6-0, 195) and Chris Brooks



Sunnyside's Jovan Stevenson gains big yardage versus Centennial in the 5A-2 State Championship contest last December (Paynter Pics).

Southern Arizona 5A-1 Top 4

- 1) **Salpointe Catholic Lancers**Looking for a Strong Playoff Run
- 2) **Buena Colts**Womble, Muasau Top Players
- 3) **Casa Grande Cougars**8-3 Record in 2006
- 4) **Tucson Badgers**Bass Leads 26 Returning Lettermen

(6-1, 192) – all seniors – to carry the pigskin.

They'll run behind an O-Line powered by Ryan Cunningham (6-1, 268, Sr.), Will Campos (6-1, 220, Sr.), John Cave (6-2, 265, Jr.) and Matt Yourupicio (6-1, 260, Jr.).

The leading receivers should be WR Dominique Keeton (6-3, 175, Sr.), WR Torrey Edwards (5-9, 165, Jr.) and TE Mike Subia (6-2, 190, Sr.).

TUCSON Head Coach Vincent Smith will roam the sidelines once again for the Badgers this fall. The good news is he'll have 26 varsity veterans back in uniform. The bad news is the Badgers finished 0-10 a year ago.

Smith and company have high hopes that 2007 will be a turnaround year. The talented and versatile Joe Bass, a 5-10, 175-pound senior, will certainly be a positive force. He could see action at running back, wide receiver and/or defensive back this season.

A couple of wideouts – seniors Wilson Reuter (5-11, 170) and Eric House (6-5, 220) – are talented and quick. Battling in the

trenches will be the likes of OL Joaquin Rojas (6-4, 250, Sr.), OL Garrett Edgerson (6-4, 280, Sr.), OL Raul Gonzalez (5-11, 250, Jr.), DL Anthony Martinez (6-1, 220, Sr.) and DE Daniel Romero (6-0, 205, Jr.). In addition to Bass, the secondary is paced by junior Daniel Malone (6-1, 180) and sophomore Roberto Verdugo (6-1, 180).

Head Coach Richard Sanchez has a sparkling 127-40 record in his 14 years at **SUNNYSIDE**. The Blue Devils are expected to win a lot of big games again this sea-

son, since they return 22 lettermen from a team that reached the 5A-2 finals and captured 11 wins against just three losses in 2006.

Standout senior running back Jovan Stevenson (5-10, 185) will provide much of the offensive firepower for this edition of Sunnyside football. He rambled for significant yards last fall. His backfield mates will be QB/DB Jaime Valdez (6-3, 170, Sr.), RB/DB Manny Aguilar (5-10, 185, Jr.), FB/DB Luis Acuna (5-9, 210, Sr.) and Malik Parra (5-10, 175, Jr.). Senior wide receiver Alan Berrellez (5-9, 170) is another weapon for the Blue Devils.

Two-way linemen Hugo Blanco (6-2, 240, Sr.), Jorge Mazon (5-9, 235, Jr.), Chris Hart (6-0, 275, Sr.) and Alan Levario (6-0, 225, Jr.) will also have their moments.

The play of another talented running

Southern Arizona 5A-2 Top 8

- 1) **Sunnyside Blue Devils**State Contender Again in 2007
- 2) **Marana Mt. View Mountain Lions**Moore, Johnson First-Class
- 3) **Cibola Raiders**Hall Talented Runner
- 4) **Ironwood Ridge Nighthawks**Up From 4A-1 Classification
- 5) **Rincon Rangers**13 Letterwinners Back From 6-6 Unit
- 6) **Kofa Kings**Will Challenge for Region Title
- 7) **Yuma Criminals**New Coach Takes Over
- 8) **San Luis Sidewinders**Denton Leads Young Program

Southern Arizona 4A-1 Top 10

- 1) Sabino Sabercats.....Coach Campos 39-11 at Sabino
- 2) Canyon del Oro DoradosNicholas Quality Quarterback
- 3) Sahuaro CougarsMcCullum's Club Well Respected
- 4) Cienega BobcatsHassey Building Terrific Program
- 5) Marana TigersDudley's Best Team So Far
- 6) Nogales Apaches2-8 in 2005, 7-4 in 2006, What's Next?
- 7) Desert View JaguarsWillis More Valuable at HB or MLB?
- 8) Catalina Foothills FalconsBattling CDO, Marana in 4A Sonoran
- 9) Flowing Wells CaballerosCompeting in Tough 4A Kino Region
- 10) Pueblo Warriors.....Working Towards a Winning Record

back – big, powerful and quick Dan Moore – will have a lot to do with fortunes at **MARANA MOUNTAIN VIEW** this year. Moore (5-11, 215) has 4.6 speed.

Quarterback Ben Johnson (6-0, 185) is also top-notch. Others to keep your eye on are C Sterling Nymeier (6-3, 225, Sr.), DE Pat O'Sullivan (6-0, 195, Sr.), DE Robert McHugh (6-0, 200, Sr.), REC Tui Mauai (6-3, 180, Jr.), QB/REC Chris Evenson (5-11, 170, Jr.), REC/DB Hector Campo (6-0, 165, Jr.), RB/LB Kameron Kamferer (6-1, 215, Sr.), REC/DB Jon Ohiaeri (6-2, 170, Sr.) and REC/DB Collin Robinson (5-10, 150, Sr.).

Coach Paul Schmidt is a first-year coach for the Mountain Lions, hoping to improve on last fall's 6-5 slate. A total of 17 lettermen return for Mountain View.

"Brandon Hall should be one of the top players in our league," says **CIBOLA** Head Coach Lucky Arvizo. We thought so much of his outstanding junior season that we named him our Yuma County Player of the Year for 2006 (see page 16).

Hall, a 5-11, 180-pound senior, is a "go-to" running back for the Raiders. Also back for Cibola, 7-3 a year ago, are WR Jacob Snyder (5-11, 170, Jr.), LB Josh Tamayo (6-0, 195, Sr.) and LB Ryan Perce (5-11, 190, Sr.).

IRONWOOD RIDGE moves up to the 5A-2 ranks in 2007, after advancing to the 4A-1 quarterfinals last campaign. It's a challenge for Coach Gary Minor's Nighthawks, but they certainly appear ready for the test.

Seventeen varsity veterans are back and raring to go for Ironwood Ridge. A trio of performers – DE/OT Wes Hohman (6-3, 240, Sr.), LB/RB Jake Fischer (5-11, 210, Jr.) and RB/CB D'juan Cherry (5-10, 185, Sr.) – earned individual honors in 2006. They'll be even better this year.

Minor also anticipates solid play from S/WR Chris Lopez (5-11, 185, Sr.), SB/CB Steve Radler (5-9, 170, Sr.), OG/DE Trent Kamins (6-3, 235, Sr.), RB/OLB Adrian Ruiz (5-7, 165, Sr.), C/DL Marvin Snodgrass (5-11, 215, Jr.), WR/S Jay Helixon (6-3, 180, Sr.), DT Tyrone Williams

(5-10, 255, Jr.) and OLB Robert Humbert (5-10, 160, Sr.).

New Head Coach Pat Ryden inherits a team at **RINCON** that split their 12 games last year, winding up at 6-6. A formidable bunch of 13 starters are back to do some damage.

Big lineman Nick Ryan (6-5, 255) is a senior to watch at offensive tackle and defensive end. He'll receive support from fellow lineman Andres Thompson (5-10, 215, Sr.).

The Rangers have an offensive attack with QB Tommy Stubbins (6-0, 180), RB Eric Dang (5-8, 165), WR Ian Theel (6-1, 180) and WR Andrew Martinez (6-0, 170) playing key roles. All are seniors.

Defensively, Rincon is strong at line-backer, where seniors Travis Malboeuf (5-11, 185), John LePage (5-10, 180) and Michael Russo (5-10, 180) cover sideline to sideline. Defensive back Bryan Marchbanks (5-9, 165, Sr.) is also a prominent player for the Rangers.

Five starters are back in uniform for **YUMA**, 3-7 a year ago. Graduates from a respectable 6-3 junior varsity will also find playing time.

The headliners are LB Michael Bradley (5-11, 175, Jr.), RB/LB John McCormick (5-9, 180, Sr.), RB JC Baker (5-6, 150, So.) and DL Martin Valdez (5-7, 180, Sr.).

Coach Jay Denton is working to establish a proud program at **SAN LUIS**. And, although the Sidewinders haven't had much success yet (0-10 in 2006), Denton's guys will take the field in 2007, looking for some breakthrough wins.

Eight letterwinners are still on hand for Denton, who expects his club will rely on RB/DB Gonzalo Contreras (5-9, 170), TE/DE Brandon Schroder (6-0, 180), C/DE Roberto Amaya (5-10, 207), OG/NG Jonathan Piceno (5-8, 212), SE/DB Roberto Amaya Jr. (6-0, 156), OG/LB Miguel Pina (5-9, 222) and FB/LB Bryan Richie (5-11, 170) to make a difference this fall. Each of these players are seniors.

At the 4A-1 level, perennial power-

house **SABINO** is still at the head of the class. The Sabercats couldn't quite run the table last year, losing to Scottsdale Saguaro in the finale at University of Phoenix Stadium. But they will challenge for the same crown this season.

Seventeen letterwinners are back from last fall's 12-2 unit. Foremost among that group are DE/OL Lucas Volk (6-3, 245), DT/OL Jason Nottingham (6-2, 275), DB/REC Mark Dragoslovich (5-11, 180), LB/OL Chris Hare (6-0, 200), RB/LB Scott Brown (6-1, 200), K Bobby Bird (5-10, 175) and TE/LB Riley Bushman (6-1, 195). All are seniors except Brown.

Sabino has both size and speed. Coach Jay Campos has especially high praise for Volk and Nottingham.

One of the better quarterbacks in Southern Arizona plays for Coach Pat Nugent at **CANYON DEL ORO**. Senior signal caller Daniel Nicholas (6-3, 185) is coming back from a fine junior campaign and he should enjoy an excellent senior year.

Of course, he needs someone to grab some passes and the Dorados are not hurting for receivers. The best returnees in that category are WR Ray Nettling (5-10, 185), TE Joe Bortano (6-2, 200), WR Derek Brown (6-0, 185) and WR Derek Matlock (5-11, 180) – all seniors.

Senior John Bour (5-11, 200) and junior Griffen Ronstadt (5-9, 165) are the primary running backs heading into the 2007 season. The offensive line is sparked by Brent Lush (5-10, 230, Sr.), John Tabor (6-0, 210, Sr.) and TJ Jacob (5-9, 200, Sr.).

It looks like another good year is in store for CDO fans. Nugent's team finished 8-3 a year ago. Twenty-two lettermen are back. The 2006 JV was 7-2. And the Dorados return a top-notch quarterback for his senior season. These are all very positive signs.

Coach Chuck McCollum has a very workable number (20) of returning lettermen at **SAHUARO**, but only two starters are back from his 6-5 unit of a year ago.

In other words, the Cougars may be a much better team in the second half of the year, after all the new starters adjust to the task at hand. McCollum is relying on holdovers like FB/LB Danny Alvarez (6-1, 210, Sr.), OT/DT Brett Jividen (6-4, 250, Sr.), FB/LB Dom San Angelo (6-0, 180, Sr.) and QB Jordan Underhill (6-0, 190, Sr.) to show the way.

Other mainstays in the 2007 Sahuaro Cougar lineup figure to be OT/DT Matt Fierro (6-0, 200, Sr.), OT/DT Russel Mesielman (5-10, 220, Sr.), WR/CB Matt Carnaghi (6-0, 185, Sr.), WR/CB Chad Saline (5-9, 170, Sr.), OG/DT Will Grijalva (5-9, 200, Sr.), C/DE Mason Holder (6-0,

200, Jr.) and RB/CB Teddy Gaston (5-9, 160, Sr.).

Head mentor Nemer Hassey is doing a fantastic job at CIENEGA. His Bobcats were an impressive 9-3 last year, reaching the 4A-1 state quarterfinals. Eighteen letterwinners are back, although only four of those veterans started a year ago. And the JV was unbeaten (8-0-1).

This year's club will be led by WR/CB Paul Carrizoza (5-8, 160, Sr.) and OT/DT Zach Davila (6-4, 290, Sr.). Both should garner their share of postseason honors.

Besides Carrizoza, the receiving corps includes Zach Dietrich (5-6, 150, Sr.), Brandon Mazzola (5-9, 180, Sr.) and Ryan Miller (5-8, 160, Sr.). In addition to Davila, the leaders in the lines are Santiago Rocha (5-10, 220, Sr.), Andrew Saenz (5-10, 240, Sr.), Nic Svob (6-1, 190, Sr.) and Greg Taylor (5-9, 180, Sr.).

Mazzola, Wes Knight (6-1, 190, Sr.) and Andy Romero (5-10, 200, Sr.) form a very efficient set of linebackers.

In his first two years at the school, **MARANA** Coach Willie Dudley registered five victories against 15 defeats. Last year the tide turned and his guys wound up 6-5 on the year.

Skillful players like QB/S Robert Rowe and TB/DB Fabian Zazueta certainly helped the cause. Rowe (6-2, 185) excelled at both quarterback and safety, while Zazueta (5-11, 175) operated at tailback and defensive back. Rowe is actually the quickest player on the team.

Of course, the Marana lines must handle their share of the workload; that means OG/DE Jesse Backerman (6-4, 235, Sr.), OG/DE Kyle Lundeen (6-3, 243, Sr.), C Joe Martin (5-10, 185, Sr.) and OT Will Youn (6-2, 210, Sr.) must be consistently good.

Also back among the 26 lettermen still available to Coach Dudley are RB/LB Spencer Elliott (5-10, 175, Sr.), DB Dallin Wengert (5-11, 155, Sr.), LB Michael Martin Moreno (5-11, 200, Sr.), LB Emilio Rojel (5-8, 185, Sr.), WR/FS Zebulon Rusemore (5-9, 165, Sr.), LB Eric Montgomery (6-3, 190, Jr.) and WR Justin Faust (5-9, 155, Jr.).

The **NOGALES** Apaches are on the move, thanks to the guidance of Head Coach James Martinez. This team concluded the 2006 season with a trip to the playoffs and a 7-4 ledger, after winning just two games the year before.

Martinez has nine starters back in uniform from that team, so it's easy to be optimistic about the 2007 campaign. There's good talent and experience at the skill positions, headed by RB/WR Andy Garcia (5-11, 175, Jr.) and QB Miguel Maldonado (6-0, 185, Sr.). Garcia has 4.5 speed.

Expect WR Eddy Lopez (5-11, 175, Sr.), RB/DB Nick Rodriguez (5-7, 160, Sr.), WR

Southern Arizona 4A-2 Top 7

- 1) Palo Verde TitansTwo State Crowns in Three Years?
- 2) Catalina Trojans4-6 in 2006, Shifting from 4A-1 to 4A-2
- 4) Douglas BulldogsRebuilding This Year
- 5) Amphitheater PanthersTrying to Battle Back
- 3) Santa Rita EaglesScurran Looking for Improved Play
- 6) Rio Rico HawksSecond Year in 4A Gila Region
- 7) Sahuarita MustangsUp From 3A South

Eloy Cortez (6-2, 175, Jr.), RB/DB Edgar Villegas (5-8, 170, Sr.) and RB/LB Jose Vega (5-9, 180, Jr.) to also make some plays.

The Apaches may not be the biggest team in Arizona, but they can still be physical, especially with the likes of DE/LB Carlos Navarro (6-1, 190, Sr.), LB Miguel Alcantar (5-9, 185, Sr.), OL Max Montt (5-10, 215, Jr.), OL Juan Espriecueta (5-10, 215, Jr.), LB Abel Sanchez (5-10, 185, Sr.), DL Juan Cano (6-1, 220, Sr.) and OL David Romero (6-1, 220, Sr.).

The headliners at **DESERT VIEW** include four seniors and a junior. Certainly, Jim Monaco, in his first year as the head coach of the Jaguars, thinks HB/MLB A.J. Willis will be a player to watch this year. He's tough and very quick.

The quarterback is junior Brandon Gilliard (6-1, 198). He can hand the ball to Willis or pass it to slotback Marc Jackson (5-10, 184, Sr.) or wideout Lee Abrahams (5-10, 187, Sr.).

Another of the 14 returning starters is OG/LB Rene Robles (5-11, 200, Sr.). The Jaguars showed a 4-6 record last fall. Topping that mark won't be easy, but it's definitely possible.

PALO VERDE is comfortable in the favorite's role after a couple of extraordinary years. Coach Todd Mayfield's Titans won the 4A-2 state crown two years ago and were region champs last season. They're very highly regarded in 2007.

Four key players – WR/DB Adam Hall (6-2, 180, Jr.), HB/DB Andric Booker (5-10, 150, Sr.), OT/DT Jonathan McCroy (6-3, 270, Sr.) and HB/LB Robert Grant (5-9, 170, Sr.) – return to give the Titans a strong foundation this year. Altogether, 17 letterwinners are back from last season's 7-4 unit.

Other notables are TE/DE Mike Rodriguez (6-2, 220, Sr.), OT/DT Marcus Cools (6-6, 270, Sr.), OT/DT Derrell Palmer (6-5, 270, Sr.), FB/LB Lee Bloxham (5-11, 190, Sr.), OG/LB Victor Larranaga (5-8, 215, Sr.) and FB/LB Cyril Straker (5-8, 190, Sr.).

"We are moving from 4A-1 to 4A-2, so we're not familiar with players from some of these teams," says **CATALINA** Head Coach Shawn Wasson.

Still, it probably won't take too long to adjust and it might be a good move for the Trojans. Seven starters are back from their 4-6 club of a year ago.

High on that list of returning performers are WR/DB James Eichberger (5-10, 160, Sr.), RB/LB Casey Johnson (5-11, 170, Sr.), RB/LB Zoar Morales (5-10, 195, Sr.), OL/DL Hassilo Kushkoki (6-0, 210, Sr.) and QB/DB Justin Hoogland (5-10, 145, Sr.). Eichberger is talented, quick (4.55) and should land some awards for his play this year.

Additional support will come from OL/DL Kevin Rountree (6-1, 225, Jr.), WR/DE Andrew Grant (6-2, 195, Sr.), OL/DL Luis Rodriguez (5-8, 230, Sr.), QB/LB Brad Quinn (5-10, 170, Jr.), QB/DB Daniel McIver (6-0, 150, Jr.) and RB/DB Marcell Gray (5-9, 165, Sr.).

Jairo Pena (5-11, 230) and Charles Hill (6-2, 185) are a couple of steady veterans returning for their senior campaigns at **DOUGLAS**. Pena is a fullback and defensive tackle; Hill plays tight end and linebacker. The Bulldogs concluded last season with a 4-6 slate.

Running back-defensive back Ronald Hopper (5-10, 175) will be a positive force for the Panthers at **AMPHITHEATER**. He ran for over 200 yards last year in a supporting role and will be more of a headliner for Coach Verne Friedli this year.

SANTA RITA returns 14 lettermen from last year. Coach Jeff Scurran is counting on seniors Ace Chuisano and Chris Johnson to fill primary roles. Chuisano (6-0, 210) is a linebacker and running back with 4.7 speed. Johnson (6-1, 160) is a dependable quarterback set to run the Eagles' offensive attack.

Wideouts J.J. Holiday (6-0, 150, Jr.) and Christian Quintanilla (6-0, 140, Sr.) will fortify the receiving corps.

Additional Santa Rita mainstays are OG/DL Paul Perez (6-1, 190, Sr.), DE Orlando Roscon (5-6, 160, Sr.), DB Troy Smith (6-0, 155, Sr.), DB Clint Smith (5-9, 140, Sr.) and DE Andy Goble (6-0, 160, Sr.).

Scurran sports an overall coaching record of 220-73-1, even though his glittering winning percentage is suffering a little right now. He'll turn it around.

KRIS

O'DOWD

LINEMAN-SALPOINTE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SOUTHERN ARIZONA
PLAYER OF THE YEAR

KRIS O'DOWD WON THIS HONOR BASED ON A VOTE BY THE
EDITORIAL STAFF OF THE SOUTHERN ARIZONA FOOTBALL MAGAZINE

Coolidge in Historic Title Run Thatcher Also Favored



Power back Brad Jackson should be a major contributor to the Coolidge offensive attack, as the Bears attempt to defend their 3A state crown (Paynter Pics).

Coach Carlo Hernandez and his **COOLIDGE** Bears have won back-to-back championships. In the history of Arizona 3A football, just three schools have ever won three consecutive state crowns. If Coolidge prevails in 2007, the Bears will join the 1978-80 Santa Cruz Dust Devils, the 1991-93 Snowflake Lobos and the 1994-97 Blue Ridge Yellowjackets as the only three-peaters! (Of course, Blue Ridge stands by itself, capturing four titles in a row, posting four straight 13-0 campaigns in the process.)

But enough about history. Do the Bears have the team to get the job done? We think they do. The Bears are the near unanimous choice by opposing coaches to make it three in a row. Coach Carlo Hernandez has 22 lettermen back from his 12-1 powerhouse. Want to know how dominant the Bears have been lately? Hernandez sports a 78-10 record in his seven-year tenure at the school.

His biggest star this year might be senior FB/LB Brad Jackson, a 5-11, 210-

pound senior with 4.55 speed. He'll get plenty of chances to make big plays in 2007. Taking over for Wheeler at quarterback will be either Charlie Garrett (5-9, 160, Jr.) or George Jones (5-11, 165, Sr.).

Placekicker Cody Barber (6-0, 175, Sr.) is a key performer for Coolidge, along with TE/LB Andrew Ashford (5-11, 180, Sr.), OL/DL Clay Gillespie (6-2, 220, Jr.), OL/DL Wyn Henderson (5-10, 220, Sr.), OL/DL Derek Gonzales (5-10, 200, Sr.), RB/DE Rodney Reagans (5-11, 210, Jr.), WR/LB Kevin Mitchell (5-10, 165, Jr.), WR/DB Zac Ross (5-10, 160, Sr.) and RB/DB Jeremy White (5-9, 145, Jr.).

If any team in the 3A South is going to dethrone Coolidge, it'll probably be the **SAFFORD** Bulldogs.

A new head coach will inherit 22 lettermen, including nine regulars. And the JV had some talent a year ago, recording a perfect 9-0 mark.

There's excellent talent in the offensive backfield, in addition to good size and experience in the O-Line. Junior quarter-

back Justin Smith (6-0, 180) is a keeper. He runs the offense well and has terrific speed (4.6).

When Safford chooses to run, Smith can give the ball to senior backs Darryl Thomas (5-11, 165), Tyrell Andrews (5-8, 165) and Tony Larson (6-0, 190). Smith can also throw the ball to WR Michael Folar (5-11, 175, Jr.) and TE Steven Hernandez (6-1, 200, Sr.).

Anchoring the lines are seniors Jason Baca (6-2, 255), Luis Villalba (6-6, 235) and Daniel Romero-Zuniga (6-2, 325).

FLORENCE is gaining enrollment at record pace; now the Gophers have to adjust to life in the 3A ranks. The competition is fierce, but the 2007 Gophers could be up to the challenge.

Despite an unimpressive 2-8 ledger in 2006, many opposing coaches believe Florence could be tough this time out. Coach Shawn Cluff welcomes back 17 lettermen – including 12 starters.

A half-dozen players – QB Cash Clemans (5-10, 155), REC/DB Andy Martinez (5-9, 165), TB/LB Larry Andersen (5-9, 170), REC/LB Alfred Woods (6-2, 185), OL/DL Mickey Tryon (6-3, 225) and FB/LB Chase Simon (5-8, 185) – are mentioned by Cluff as his foundation for this year's team.

Clemans runs the offense well. Andersen is the quickest. Simon is the lone junior in that group.

"We will be young and have a limited number of players with varsity experience," says **GLOBE** head mentor Mike O'Neal. The Tigers do have a dozen varsity veterans on the field; those players helped record a 6-4 slate in 2006.

He's heavy with experienced skill-position players like RB/DB Brady Wager (6-0, 180, Jr.), WR/DB Colten Phillips (6-0, 175, Sr.), RB/DB Tober Francom (5-11, 200, Sr.), RB/LB Nathaniel Smith (5-9, 170, Jr.), TE/DE Brian Burgener (6-0, 185, Sr.) and WB/LB Damon Valencia (5-8, 170, Jr.).

Globe's number one returnee on the line is two-way standout Manny Bejarano (6-0, 205, Jr.).

Coach Jorge Mendivil seems to be putting together a solid program at **EMPIRE**,

Southern Arizona 3A Top 7

- 1) Coolidge Bears 78-10 With Hernandez as Coach
- 2) Safford Bulldogs QB Justin Smith Sparks Offense
- 3) Florence Gophers..... 12 Starters Back for Coach Cluff
- 4) Globe Tigers 6-4 Last Year
- 5) Empire Ravens Experienced Team Ready for 3A South Play
- 6) Santa Cruz Dust Devils..... Strong Group of Running Backs
- 7) Maricopa Rams Moving Up from the 2A Classification

where his Ravens earned an even split (4-4) in their schedule last year.

All 22 starters return from that team, so Empire should have a say about which teams survive in the tough 3A South Region. Senior Josh Garcia is the most accomplished returning veteran; he's a 5-10, 200-pound tight end and defensive end.

Providing big-time support are QB/FS Adam D'eredita (5-10, 170), WB/SS Tyler Romack (6-0, 175), RB/OLB Gabe Encinas (5-11, 160) and DB Jordan Lynch (5-8, 150) – all seniors.

Top underclassmen are OG/DT Joe McDonough (6-2, 220, Jr.), OT/DE David Gritis (6-2, 190, Jr.), FB/OLB Albert Casella (5-8, 150, Jr.), FB/LB Marcus Jenkins (5-9, 155, Jr.) and RB/DB Cody Woods (5-7, 145, So.).

Coach Al Ocampo is into his second year on the job at **SANTA CRUZ**. The 2006 campaign left room for improvement (2-8), and that's the Dust Devils' mission for 2007.

Seniors Pat Carn (6-1, 190), Mike Guerrero (5-11, 190), Josh Leja (5-8, 175) and Ed Brady (5-8, 150) comprise a nice set of running backs. Bo Sanchez (5-7, 150, Sr.) and DJ Montijo (5-10, 160, Sr.) are the primary receivers.

The leaders in the line are Miguel Cazares (6-1, 250, Sr.), Mike Lujan (5-11, 180, Sr.) and Bruno Torey (5-8, 150, Sr.).

Denver Householder leads a contingent of 17 varsity veterans back for **THATCHER**. And they have a fairly easy job – bring back another 2A state title.

Householder is a true leader as both a running back and free safety. He's really quick (4.5) and should enjoy a remarkable senior year for the Eagles (11-4 in 2006).

Other honors candidates returning for Coach Don Conrad are OG/DL David Nicholas (6-0, 195, Sr.), OG/LB Frank Chavez (6-0, 200, Sr.), QB/DB Chris Aaron (6-2, 180, Sr.) and RB/LB Bryant Innes (6-1, 190, Sr.).

You might also follow the play of WR/DB Trent Christensen (5-10, 160, Sr.), RB/LB Jace Beals (6-3, 205, Jr.), OL/DL Jake Schuler (6-2, 240, Sr.), OL/DL Nick

Mallenaux (6-5, 275, Sr.) and McKay Stevens (6-1, 180, Jr.).

Things are rolling at **HAYDEN**, where Coach John Estrada guided his Lobos to a great 12-1 record last year, while the JV was finishing with an unblemished 7-0-1 slate.

A half-dozen key performers – RB/LB Joseph Lopez (5-10, 190, Sr.), C/LB Alejandro Estrada (5-10, 180, Sr.), QB/CB Rudy Figueroa (5-9, 170, Sr.), RB/FS Ramon Figueroa (5-8, 170, Sr.), OG/DT Esteban Gallego (6-0, 200, Sr.) and OT/DT Chris Martinez (6-3, 230, Jr.) – are expected to shine for Hayden this time out.

Seven offensive and six defensive starters returning at **BISBEE** should bring a smile to Coach Truman Williamson's face. The Pumas were good (8-4) last year and they have an opportunity to be much better in 2007.

Williamson lists his top returnees as QB/S Chris Munsey (6-2, 185, Sr.), QB/LB Sergio Dagnino-Rivera (6-0, 180, So.), RB/DB Jesus Dagnino (5-7, 165, Sr.), RB Steve Gonzales (5-8, 165, Jr.), RB/DB Dominic Gunsaulley (5-7, 170, Sr.), RB/DB Matt Becking (6-0, 150, Sr.), SE Alex Navarette (5-7, 150, Sr.), FL/DB Jacob Amos (5-9, 160, Jr.), FL/DB Adrian Baroquez (5-10, 165, Jr.) and RB/LB Matt Metli (6-3, 215, Sr.).

Others to watch include Thor Acuna, Eric Olander, Bryan Earnest, Alonso Dagnino, Willie Enriquez, Carlos Lopez, Luis Guerrero, Jacob Holguin, Carlos Moreno, Emilio Torrez, Roberto Marquez,

Willie Rivera, Cesar Acala, Robert Flores and Raul Villaseñor.

The prospects are good at **ANTELOPE**, where the Rams have 15 lettermen – including a dozen regulars – back on campus. Coach John Blabe, a 24-year veteran at the school, directed his guys to a solid 7-3 record last fall, while the JV was notching a perfect 8-0 campaign.

Best of the Rams figures to be junior QB Chance Mixon (6-1, 170), senior RB Omar Hernandez (5-6, 160) and senior RB Ernesto Hernandez (5-6, 160).

The Vandals of **MIAMI** were on the right side of the ledger (5-4) last year and Coach George Medrano hopes to build on that. A very solid group of 20 letterwinners are back from that team, including the likes of RB/REC/DB Cam Roland (6-2, 180, Sr.), QB/DB Chris Randall (6-0, 175, Sr.), RB/LB Austin Colman (6-0, 190, Jr.) and OL/DL Jeb Melcher (5-10, 210, Jr.). Roland is very quick (4.6) and is a player to watch.

The offensive line, in particular, is very well stocked. Besides Melcher, Medrano expects big years from Lewis McIntosh (5-10, 230, Sr.), Lawrence Sweat (6-2, 260, Jr.), Gregg Marin (5-9, 210, Jr.), Robert McGauhay (6-3, 260, So.) and Ethan Lopez (6-0, 190, Jr.).

Junior Chris Marin (5-7, 170) has good speed (4.7) and will contribute at running back and defensive back.

Coach Dan Renteria's unit went 6-6 last year and he'll have plenty of familiar faces back in 2007 at **SAN MANUEL**. Eight starters on each side of the football are scattered among 20 returning letterwinners for the Miners. And don't forget the players from last season's 6-2 junior varsity will lend a hand.

The San Manuel lines are good, thanks to OG/DE David Rodriguez (6-0, 218, Sr.), OG/LB Thomas Greer (5-10, 215, Sr.), OL/DL Josh Zazueta (5-10, 240, Sr.), TE/DL Chris Ronquillo (6-0, 200, So.), OG/DE Jose Vasquez (6-0, 160, So.) and

Southern Arizona 2A Top 10

- 1) Thatcher Eagles Conrad Fields Another Contending Team
- 2) Hayden Lobos 12-1 Last Year
- 3) Bisbee Pumas..... 13 Starters on Hand from 8-4 Unit
- 4) Antelope Rams 15 Lettermen Back on the Field
- 5) Miami Vandals Versatile Roland Fine Talent
- 6) San Manuel Miners 20 Varsity Veterans Return from 6-6 Club
- 7) Willcox Cowboys..... Quezada, Sanchez Return
- 8) Yuma Catholic Shamrocks Stallworth Assumes Coaching Slot
- 9) Benson Bobcats Ammon Top Returnee
- 10) Morenci Wildcats..... Good Size in O-Line

TE/DE George Quijaoa (6-1, 190, Jr.).

That makes the job at hand so much easier for offensive weapons like RB/OLB Mark Tamayo (5-11, 165, Sr.), WR/OLB A.J. Monfred (5-10, 160, Jr.), RB/DB Mark Webber (5-10, 160, Jr.), FB/LB Mike Maginay (5-11, 200, Sr.), QB/SS Matt Phelps (6-0, 155, So.) and FB/LB Adrian Ortega (5-10, 170, So.).

WILLCOX welcomes back a nice group of veterans from its 4-6 team of a year ago. A couple of the best – RB/LB Irving Quezada (5-9, 170) and RB/LB Luis Sanchez (6-0, 190) – should help the cause. Quezada rushed for over 500 yards last year, while Sanchez participated in over 100 tackles.

New head man Rhett Stallworth takes over at **YUMA CATHOLIC** after three years at the helm of Yuma High. He inherits six starters from a club that won six of 10 games a year ago.

Fortunately, several of his best returning players should provide some real offensive firepower. Junior QB Eric Inman (6-1, 175), senior RB Eric Martinez (5-9, 200), senior WR Brian Badgely (6-0, 180) and junior WR Rod Ford (6-2, 175) have both ability and game experience. Senior LB Jason Koppinger (5-11, 180) is the leading defender on the Shamrocks' roster.

Tony Ammon (6-2, 205), a definite honors candidate, is the best returning player at **BENSON**. He's a two-way standout at offensive tackle and defensive end for the Bobcats, who completed last year's schedule with a 5-5 ledger. He'll need some help if Benson is to advance to the playoffs this year.

Back for his second year in **MORENCI** is Head Coach Dale Hooper. Only five starters are back from the Wildcats' 2006 squad that put together two wins in 10 attempts.

Maybe senior C/NG Mick Curley (6-0, 280) can lead his peers to bigger and better things. He'll receive support in the trenches from OL/DL Steven Madrid (5-10, 225, Sr.) and OL/DL Sean White (6-0, 180, So.).

Either Justin Reyes (6-0, 160, Jr.), Colton King (6-3, 185, Jr.) or Joshua Mennen (6-1, 170, So.) should claim the starting job at quarterback.

Other top-notch Morenci performers include LB/WR Armand Morales (5-10, 165, Sr.), LB/RB Voss Jayce (5-10, 175, Sr.), DB/WR Jay Kridell (5-10, 150, Jr.) and DB/WR Spencer Kizzire (5-8, 140, Sr.).

RAY is looking for more wins in 2007. If the Bearcats achieve success, watch for Jordan Huerta and Mario Romero to really produce. Huerta is a 6-4, 185-pound

senior quarterback who passed for 500 and ran for 200 yards last year. Meanwhile, Romero (5-9, 155) contributed 800 yards rushing and over 200 yards receiving from his running back position.

Both players are stalwarts in the defense too.

SAN CARLOS is not hurting in the experience department. An amazing 35 lettermen return for Coach Marcos Franco.

Powerful fullback James Phillips, a 5-9, 210-pound senior, will battle for yardage. He's also a major player on defense from his linebacker slot.

The Braves will also rely on OL/LB Ryan Jones (5-10, 190, Sr.), OG/DL Michael Beton (5-11, 240, Sr.), RB/CB Kevin Goode (5-8, 160, Sr.), OT/DT Ethan Randall (6-3, 300, Sr.), RB/LB Kenny Nash (5-8, 160, Sr.), FB/LB Virgil Long (5-10, 180, Jr.), OT/DE Josh Dillon (6-2, 220, Jr.), OT/DT Herschel Elthie (5-9, 215, Jr.) and QB/LB Nathan Perry (5-10, 200, Sr.) to help put some wins on the board this year.

Phelps is a particularly good prospect, despite his tender age.

FORT THOMAS has good offensive firepower back on the field this year, thanks to key performers like QB/DE Demetrius Dosela (6-0, 185, Sr.) and RB/LB Noel Nosie (5-8, 175, Sr.). Dosela passed for over 1,100 yards, while Nosie contributed 700 yards on the ground.

Others to watch include holdovers Bryant Wright, Joseph Titla, Randall Talgo, Meshech Boni, Leeron Cheney, Udall Pike, Daniel Boni, Trevor Declay, Jamerson Preston, Richard Tope, Jowen Moses and Daryl Bullis.

VALLEY UNION has some high hopes for 2007. Talented senior RB/DB Luis Martinez (5-10, 175) has good speed and should enjoy a banner campaign for the Blue Devils (7-2 in 2006).

He'll receive support from RB/DB Kenny Brown (5-9, 180, Sr.), QB/DB Jordan Landwalen (6-0, 175, Sr.), OG/LB Andy Hedvall (6-4, 205, Sr.), C/NG Cole Christinat (6-0, 210, Sr.), WR/DE Owen Mortenson (6-1, 180, Sr.), TE/DE Drew Sanford (6-2, 185, Sr.) and TE/DE Rafael Peralta (6-0, 190, Sr.).

Southern Arizona 1A Top 5

- 1) **Fort Thomas Apaches****Dosela, Nosia Explosive Pair**
- 2) **Pima Roughriders****State Semifinalists in 2006**
- 3) **Valley Union Blue Devils**.....**Martinez Leads Good Group of Veterans**
- 4) **Duncan Wildkats**.....**Highly-Respected Team**
- 5) **Gila Bend Gila Monsters****New to 8-Man Football**

Coach Tony Luzania, with two years of head coaching experience at Valley Union, has done quite nicely (13-6). There should be more wins on the way this fall.

"We are new to 1A football, but I am sure there are many talented players for us to get to know," says **GILA BEND** Head Coach Rich Metcalf.

For his Gila Monsters to have success, the following players will have to have solid seasons: RB/LB Ed Gonzalez (5-10, 165, Sr.), WR/LB Luis Rodriguez (6-0, 175, Sr.), OL/DL Pete Nevarez (5-10, 200, Sr.), WR/DB Wyatt Perry (6-0, 155, Sr.), RB/LB Arsenio Onofre (5-8, 165, Jr.), OL/DL Israel Herrera (5-11, 215, Sr.), OL/DL Ryan Gonzalez (5-10, 160, Jr.), QB/DB Freddie Burkhardt (5-10, 155, So.) and WR/DB Luis Ortiz (5-7, 145, So.).

Maybe Metcalf and crew will find 8-man football to their liking.

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2006Richard Taylor, Centennial
 2005Scooter Molander, Brophy Prep
 2004John Bryant, Pima
 2003John Wrenn, Hamilton
 2002Rodger Schenks, Globe
 2001Richard Sanchez, Sunnyside
 2000Jimmy Jones, Red Mountain
 1999Ron Estabrook, Chaparral
 1998Jim Rattay, Desert Vista
 1997Bob Young, Mingus Union
 1996Paul Moro, Blue Ridge
 1995Richard Gray, Arizona Boys Ranch
 1994Doug Shaffer, Horizon
 1993Mike Morgan, St. Johns
 1992Jim Beall, Snowflake
 1991Tom Wheatley, Agua Fria
 1990Jeff Scurran, Sabino
 1989Gary Venturo, Corona del Sol
 1988Jerry Loper, Westwood
 1987Mike Clark, Dobson
 1986Jim Rattay, Mesa
 1985Jim Bevell, Chaparral
 1984Pat Farrell, St. Mary's
 1983Jesse Parker, Mesa Mountain View
 1982Earl Putman, Moon Valley
 1981Richard Gray, Horizon
 1980Karl Kiefer, McClintock
 1979Vern Friedli, Amphitheater
 1978Dan Dunn, Gilbert
 1977Jim Russum, Casa Grande
 1976Ed Anderson, Coronado
 1975Jerry Loper, Amphitheater



Centennial's Richard Taylor

1974Bill Epperson, Coconino
 1973Van Howe, Palo Verde
 1972Harvey Keeney, Miami
 1971Ollie Mayfield, Tucson
 1970Ed Hubbard, Pima
 1969Ray Laing, Central
 1968Ike Sharp, Douglas
 1967Ed Doherty, St. Mary's
 1966Lonnie Foster, Santa Cruz
 1965John Mallamo, Tucson



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2006 Football Team

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Bobby Banahan '08; Nat Barlow '07; Blake Behrens '07;
Bryan Berens '08; Matthew Berkley '09;
Alex Borselli '07; Chris Brown '08; Jason Bruner '07;
Matt Butterfield '07; Jesse Castaneda '09;
Aaron Cheatham '07; Aaron Cicero '08;
Reed Dodenhoff '08; Brian Eddy '09; Max Eller '09;
Brett Fitzgerald '09; Brian Franz '08; Stefan Fulce '09;
Alex Gaona '07; Corbin Gillespie '08; Mark Gonzales '08;
Brett Gonzales '08; Matt Gradwohl '08;
Adam Hanson '07; Mitch Hershkowitz '09;
Adam Holzmeister '09; Anthony Hooks '08;
Jason Hoover '08; Will Hubbard '08; Daniel Juarez '08;
Mark Khanisho '09; Nick Klein '08; Sean Lieb '08;
Andrew Lucas '07; Hank MacKey '08; Drew Maggi '08;
Ryan Malham '07; Todd Mark '07; Tanner Martin '08;
Christian Martin '08; Nick Mathers '07;
Brock Middleton '08; Cale Miller '09; Joe Moseley '07;
Will Moskalik '07; Trenton Murphy '09; Nick Natale '07;
Nick Nudo '08; Michael Owings '07; Mathew Padilla '09;
Anthony Palumbo '08; Alexi Panagiotakopoulos '08;
Shane Peterlin '07; Ray Polk '08; Justin Poore '07;
Steve Pursley '07; Adrian Quinones '07; Cesar Rivera '08;
Mike Rizzo '08; Brent Roberts '07; James Robson '07;
Bobby Rodrigues '08; Michael Rubenstein '08;
Adrian Saenz '07; Billy Sanders '09; Andrew Serrano '07;
Jesse Shedd '09; Nathan Shiya '07; Bart Stires '07;
Spencer Stone '09; Chase Taylor '07; Jonathan Tease '07;
Brett Thompson '08; A.J. Toops '07; Mike Tree '09;
Xavier Villa '08; John Wells '10; Billy Worthington '08

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 2005 Jon Tobin, Cactus
 2004 Travis Dixon, Hamilton
 2003 Darron Mougey, Chaparral
 TIE..... Max Hall, Mesa Mountain View
 2002 Jason Murietta, Ironwood
 2001 Mike Nixon, Sunnyslope
 TIE..... Kellen Bradley, Scottsdale Saguaro
 2000 Mike Nixon, Sunnyslope [jr]
 1999 John Beck, Mesa Mountain View
 1998 John Rattay, Desert Vista [jr]
 1997 Richard Lucero, South Mountain
 1996 Todd Mortenson, Tempe
 1995 Ryan Kealy, St. Mary's
 1994 Chris Snyder, Sunnyslope
 1993 Jason Maas, Yuma
 1992 Jason Verdugo, Canyon del Oro
 1991 Anthony Sanders, Santa Rita
 1990 Grady Benton, Mesa
 1989 Aaron Santini, Santa Rita
 1988 Bret Powers, Cactus
 1987 John Bonds, St. Mary's
 1986 Bobby Valdez, Sunnyside
 1985 Kent Kiefer, McClintock
 1984 Steve Belles, St. Mary's
 1983 John Walker, Marcos de Niza
 1982 Rodney Peete, Tucson Saguaro [jr]
 1981 Steve Stallworth, Yuma
 1980 Trent Hutchinson, South Mountain
 1979 Lloyd Coker, Central
 1978 Kevin Smith, Scottsdale Saguaro [jr]
 1977 Mike Pagel, Washington
 1976 Greg Brady, Coronado
 1975 Jim Krohn, Amphitheater
 1974 Cary Palmer, Mesa
 1973 Rob Wilson, Coronado
 1972 Greg Hubbell, Central
 1971 Fred Mortensen, Tempe
 1970 Fred Mortensen, Tempe [jr]
 1969 Danny White, Westwood
 1968 Bill Mannion, St. Mary's
 1967 Ken Johnson, Arcadia [jr]
 1966 John Svob, Catalina
 1965 George Mattingly, Arcadia
 1964 Dave Grangaard, Camelback
 1963 Rusty Tillman, Agua Fria
 1962 Tim Flood, Brophy Prep
 1961 Elby Bushong, Washington
 1960 Gary Deak, Arcadia
 1959 Eddie Bricker, Miami
 1958 John Power, Camelback
 1957 Eddie Wilson, Chandler

ARIZONA'S

High School

QUARTERBACK

Of The Year



PHILLIP AHOLT

Arizona High School Quarterback of the Year, Phillip Aholt, was selected by the editorial staff of the Phoenix Metro, Northern Arizona and Southern Arizona Football Magazines. He is pictured here with Cactus Shadows Head Football Coach Chad DeGrenier [left].



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5A-1 State Championship Bracket

2006 Season in Review, Sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield

Fri., Nov. 10th

Fri., Nov. 17th

Fri., Dec. 1st

Sat., Dec. 9th

Mesa Mt. View (#1)

Casa Grande (#16)

Corona del Sol (#8)

Desert Vista (#9)

Brophy Prep (#5)

Gilbert (#12)

Chandler (#4)

St. Mary's (#13)

Basha (#3)

Highland (#14)

Salpointe Catholic (#6)

Mesa (#11)

Red Mountain (#7)

Horizon (#10)

Hamilton (#2)

Mountain Ridge (#15)

**Mesa Mt. View
(57-7)**

**Desert Vista
(42-7)**

**Brophy Prep
(34-6)**

**Chandler
(49-20)**

**Basha
(14-10)**

**Salpointe
(28-7)**

**Horizon
(24-20)**

**Hamilton
(46-21)**

**Mesa Mt. View
(28-21)**

McClintock HS
7:00 pm

**Chandler
(35-19)**

**Basha
(10-7)**

Chandler HS
7:00 pm

**Hamilton
(42-7)**

**Mesa Mt. View
(22-7)**

Univ. of Phoenix
Stadium
5:00pm

**Hamilton
(34-8)**

**Hamilton
(34-15)**



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5A-2 State Championship Bracket

2006 Season in Review, Sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield

Fri., Nov. 10th

Fri., Nov. 17th

Fri., Nov. 24th

Sat., Dec. 2nd

Centennial (#1)

Shadow Mountain (#16) Centennial
(34-0)

Deer Valley (#8) Centennial
(49-7)

Barry Goldwater (#9) Goldwater
(29-28)

Peoria (#5) Glendale CC 7:00 pm Centennial
(51-7)

South Mountain (#12) Peoria
(56-27)

Central (#4) Peoria
(33-13)

Tolleson (#13) Tolleson
(45-17)

North Canyon (#3) Univ. of Phoenix Stadium 5:00 pm Centennial
(34-0)

Paradise Valley (#14) North Canyon
(21-10)

Ironwood (#6) MDN
(13-10)

Marcos de Niza (#11) MDN
(32-13)

Westview (#7) Flowing Wells HS 7:00 pm Sunnyside
(21-14)

Marana Mt. View (#10) Westview
(35-19)

Sunnyside (#2) Sunnyside
(13-3)

Desert Ridge (#15) Sunnyside
(54-14)



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Familiar Names Dominate 2006 Finals

But Newcomers Centennial, Cactus Shadows Emerge as First-Time Champs



It's off to the races for Coolidge running back T.J. White (#3) in the Bears' 28-21 victory over Wickenburg in the 3A title game. Cactus Shadows wide receiver Kyle Watkins (#44) turned in one of the most dynamic performances in Arizona football state finals history, grabbing 21 passes, as the Falcons upended Higley, 28-14, in the 4A-2 finale (Paynter Pics).

By David Kukulski

If you follow prep football in Arizona, you're familiar with the teams from Hamilton, Saguaro, Coolidge, Thatcher and Mayer.

Hamilton ... the Huskies have been in the big-school finals five of the last six years, winning the top prize three times.

Saguaro ... a couple of appearances in the finals, with one state football crown before 2006.

Coolidge ... this 3A powerhouse now has seven titles in 10 championship games ... will be going for a Three-Peat in 2007.

Thatcher ... six championships in eight

title game appearances ... the Eagles constantly battle for 2A honors.

Mayer ... two championships, seven finales in school history for the Wildcats.

So, when the 2006 season ended and the AIA awarded these clubs their beautiful trophies, it was a terrific accomplishment.

It was a proud moment in school history.

But, for the administrators, faculty, students, coaches, players and fans at Centennial and Cactus Shadows, last season was a breakthrough year.

You see, the Coyotes and Falcons, respectively, had never walked away with a state championship trophy in football before.

Not only that, but Coach Richard Taylor at Centennial and Coach Chad DeGrenier at Cactus Shadows guided their teams to perfect seasons – Centennial was 14-0 and Cactus Shadows finished 15-0. The only other undefeated prep football team last year was 1A champ Mayer.

So, congratulations to all seven champions. You gave us a lot of thrills in 2006. The quality of play continues to improve in the Grand Canyon State.

And, to Centennial and Cactus Shadows, welcome to the party! Now the fun really starts – trying to defend those titles.

Let the games begin!

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Arizona Running Back of the Year
PRINCE AMUKAMARA

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ARIZONA'S RUNNING BACK OF THE YEAR

Arizona High School Running Back of the Year.

PRINCE AMUKAMARA

was selected by the editorial staff of the Phoenix Metro, Northern Arizona and Southern Arizona Football Magazines. He is pictured here with Apollo Head Football Coach Zack Threadgill (left).



2006 Prince Amukamara, Apollo
2005 Kyle Williams, Chaparral
2004 Matt Clapp, Paradise Valley
2003 Keegan Herring, Peoria (jr)
2002 Marcus Thomas, Tolleson
2001 Randy Hill, McClintock
2000 Mike Bell, Tolleson
1999 Terrell Suggs, Hamilton
1998 Bobby Wade, Desert Vista
1997 Nathan Wize, Sabino
1996 Kyran Jones, Peoria (jr)
1995 Mike Brown, Scottsdale Saguaro
1994 Tavon Cooper, Peoria
1993 Robert Holcombe, Mesa
1992 Mike Mitchell, Brophy Prep
1991 Chris Hopkins, Salpointe
1990 Mario Bates, Amphitheater
1989 Brian Drew, McClintock
1988 Michael Bates, Amphitheater
1987 Kevin Galbreath, Maryvale
1986 Reggie McGill, St. Mary's
1985 Cleveland Colter, Jr., McClintock
1984 David Winsley, Flagstaff (jr)
1983 Paul Kasprzyk, Mesa Mountain View
1982 Glenn Rogers, Agua Fria
1981 Stan Gill, Flagstaff

1980 Fred Sims, Sunnyside
1979 Fred Sims, Sunnyside (jr)
1978 Mike Cado, Santa Cruz
1977 Alvin Moore, Coolidge
1976 Willard Reeves, Coconino
1975 Brian Felix, Phoenix Union
1974 David Mitchell, St. Mary's (jr)
1973 Ronnie Bonner, Westwood (jr)
1972 Jesse Parker, Rincon
1971 Manuel Jones, Phoenix Union
1970 Don Washington, Agua Fria (jr)
1969 Benny Malone, Santa Cruz
1968 Joe Petroschus, Tucson
1967 Tim Smith, St. Mary's
1966 Bob Soza, Westwood
1965 Art Malone, Santa Cruz
1964 Leroy Peoples, Marana
1963 James Dugan, Flagstaff
1962 Everett "Moose" Rollins, Arcadia
1961 Andy Livingston, Mesa
1960 Jim Sims, Tucson
1959 Bob Olson, South Mountain
1958 Lewis Albright, Scottsdale
1957 Clay Freney, Globe
1956 Warren Livingston, Mesa
1955 George Greathouse, Phoenix Union

4A-1 State Championship Bracket

2006 Season in Review, Sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield

Fri., Nov. 10th

Fri., Nov. 17th

Fri., Dec. 1st

Sat., Dec. 9th

Sabino (#1)

McClintock (#16)

Ironwood Ridge (#8)

Canyon Del Oro (#9)

Chaparral (#5)

Apollo (#12)

Cienega (#4)

Marana (#13)

Saguaro (#3)

Nogales (#14)

Cactus (#6)

Sahuaro (#11)

Independence (#7)

Prescott (#10)

Agua Fria (#2)

Rincon (#15)

Sabino

(42-0)

Ironwood R.

(20-0)

Chaparral

(35-28 OT)

Cienega

(41-27)

Saguaro

(42-14)

Cactus

(34-33)

Prescott

(20-13)

Agua Fria

(49-17)

Sabino

(42-3)

Tucson HS
7:00 pm

Chaparral

(44-12)

Saguaro

(38-15)

SD O'Connor HS
7:00 pm

Agua Fria

(26-23 2OT)

Sabino

(24-14)

Univ. of Phoenix
Stadium
1:00 pm

Saguaro

(41-21)

Saguaro

(56-20)



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4A-2 State Championship Bracket

2006 Season in Review, Sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield

Fri., Nov. 10th

Fri., Nov. 17th

Fri., Nov. 24th

Sat., Dec. 2nd

Cactus Shadows (#1)

Desert Edge (#16)	C. Shadows (45-7)
--------------------------	-----------------------------

Buckeye (#8)

Queen Creek (#9)	Queen Creek (20-0)
-------------------------	------------------------------

Mingus (#5)

Notre Dame Prep (#12)	Mingus (41-27)
------------------------------	--------------------------

Washington (#4)

Coronado (#13)	Washington (42-41 OT)
-----------------------	---------------------------------

Arcadia (#3)

Glendale (#14)	Arcadia (13-10)
-----------------------	---------------------------

Apache Junction (#6)

Flagstaff (#11)	Apache Jct. (15-12)
------------------------	-------------------------------

Palo Verde (#7)

Sunnyslope (#10)	Sunnyslope (17-14)
-------------------------	------------------------------

Higley (#2)

Bradshaw Mountain (#15)	Higley (14-7)
--------------------------------	-------------------------

C. Shadows

(38-19)

SD O'Connor HS
7:00 pm

C. Shadows

(35-12)

Washington

(27-21)

Univ. of Phoenix
Stadium
1:00 pm

C. Shadows

(28-14)

Apache Jct.

(21-6)

Dobson HS
7:00 pm

Higley

(19-7)

Higley

(30-7)



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Congratulations To **ARIZONA'S** **RECEIVER OF THE YEAR**

2006KERRY TAYLOR
.....Hamilton
2005T.J. CAMPBELL
.....Sunnyslope
2004CHRIS McGAHA
.....Moon Valley
2003ZACH MILLER
.....Desert Vista
2002THOMAS HUFF
.....Camelback
2001ADAM MANNON
.....Hamilton
.....JOSH JORDAN
.....Chandler (jr)
2000JUNIOR TAYLOR
.....Mesa
1999SAMMY MOORE
.....Westwood
1998BRISTOL OLOMUA
.....Red Mountain
1997JASON JENKINS
.....South Mountain
1996JUSTIN TAPLIN
.....Tempe Union
1995TARIQ McDONALD
.....St. Mary's
1994KENNY MITCHELL
.....Peoria
1993KILNNY CHEATHAM
.....South Mountain
1992FREDDIE DODSON
.....Chandler
1991SIEVE BUSH
.....Paradise Valley
1990JASON BIRDSOING
.....Cactus
1989JASON BIRDSOING
.....Cactus (jr)
1988ERIC DRAGE
.....Santa Rita
1987ORLANDO MCKAY
.....Mesa
1986ERIC GULIFORD
.....Peoria (jr)



**2006 RECIPIENT KERRY TAYLOR
OF HAMILTON HIGH**

1985STEVE MARTIN
.....Tucson Sahuaro
1984TODD YOUNG
.....Marcos de Niza
1983VINCE MASTERS
.....Coolidge (jr)
1982RANDALL McDANIEL
.....Agua Fria
1981GLENN DENNARD
.....Corona del Sol
1980SKIP PHILL
.....Tucson Sahuaro
1979JAY DOBYNS
.....Tucson Sahuaro
1978JUNIOR SOLOMON
.....Coolidge
1977CHARLES COBBS
.....Florence
1976JOHN MISLER
.....Tucson Sahuaro
1975RON WASHINGTON
.....McClintock
1974SPILLY HART
.....St. Mary's
1973PRESTON DENNARD
.....Marcos de Niza
1972DON WOODS
.....Mesa
1971WILLIE SCROGGINS
.....Safford
1970DARION GILBERT
.....Phoenix Union
1969LARRY SHORTY
.....Santa Cruz
1968ED WEATHERSPOON
.....Globe
1967CALVIN DEMERY
.....South Mountain
1966MIKE BOWLING
.....Agua Fria
1965BILL DIPLEY
.....Arcadia (jr)

SELECTIONS MADE BY THE EDITORIAL STAFF OF THE

PHOENIX METRO, SOUTHERN ARIZONA AND NORTHERN ARIZONA
FOOTBALL MAGAZINES

Saluting

JESSE WHEELER

of the Coolidge Bears



QB/DB

Jesse Wheeler
is shown with
Coolidge Head Coach
Carlo Hernandez

The Pinal County Player of the Year for 2006

as selected by the editorial staff of the Phoenix Metro
and Southern Arizona Football Magazines

3A State Championship Bracket

2006 Season in Review, Sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield

Fri., Nov. 3rd

Fri., Nov. 10th

Fri., Nov. 17th

Fri., Nov. 24th

Wickenburg (W#1)

Sahuarita (S#4)

Monument Valley (N#2)

Blue Ridge (E#3)

Show Low (E#2)

Tuba City (N#3)

Seton Catholic (S#1)

Parker (W#4)

Winslow (N#1)

Snowflake (E#4)

Fountain Hills (W#2)

Safford (S#3)

Coolidge (S#2)

River Valley (W#3)

Round Valley (E#1)

Window Rock (N#4)

Wickenburg

(21-12)

Blue Ridge

(35-14)

Show Low

(56-8)

Seton Catholic

(56-6)

Winslow

(39-27)

Fountain Hills

(27-20)

Coolidge

(50-7)

Round Valley

(48-0)

Wickenburg

(26-23)

Mesa CC
5:00 pm

Seton Catholic

(20-19)

Winslow

(34-14)

Mesa CC
8:00 pm

Coolidge

(50-21)

Wickenburg

(28-23)

McClintock HS
7:00 pm

Coolidge

(28-24)

Coolidge

(28-21)



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2A State Championship Bracket

2006 Season in Review, Sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield

Fri., Nov. 3rd

Fri., Nov. 10th

Sat., Nov. 18th

Sat., Nov. 25th

Thatcher (E#1)

Pusch Ridge Chr. (C#3)

Camp Verde (N#2)

Yuma Catholic (W#2)

Bisbee (E#2)

Arizona Lutheran (M#3)

Hayden (C#1)

Williams (N#3)

Antelope (W#1)

Bourgade Catholic (M#4)

Valley Christian (M#1)

Willcox (E#3)

Phoenix Christian (M#2)

San Manuel (C#2)

St. Johns (N#1)

Maricopa (W#3)

Thatcher

(46-6)

Camp Verde

(48-35)

Bisbee

(33-15)

Hayden

(49-0)

Bourgade

(46-21)

Valley Chr.

(35-6)

Phx Christian

(54-8)

St. Johns

(56-7)

Thatcher

(45-12)

McClintock HS
2:00 pm

Hayden

(28-8)

Valley Chr.

(54-20)

McClintock HS
5:00 pm

Phx Christian

(21-18)

Thatcher

(40-7)

McClintock HS
2:00 pm

Valley Chr.

(9-6)

Thatcher

(42-20)



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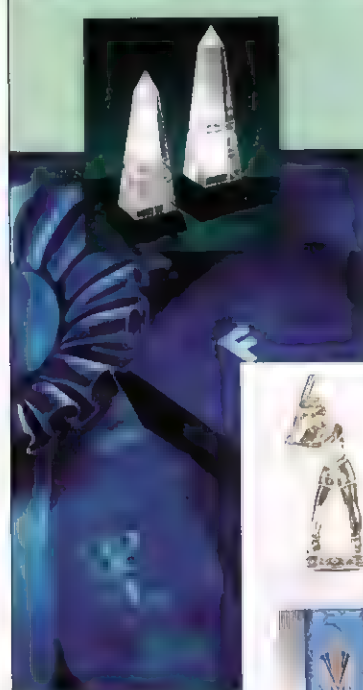
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KUKULSKI BROTHERS, INC. SALUTES ARIZONA'S HIGH SCHOOL

DEFENSIVE BACK OF THE YEAR



2006 Recipient
Glenn Love
of Hamilton High

- 2006..... Glenn Love, Hamilton
- 2005..... Jonathan Ott, Mountain Ridge (jr)
- 2004..... Austin Martin, Mountain Ridge
- 2003..... Myrio Davis, Hamilton
- 2002..... Adam Patterson, St Johns
- 2001..... Mike Nixon, Sunnyslope
- 2000..... Chaz Scott, Hamilton
- 1999..... Marcus Thurman, Desert Vista
- 1998..... Bobby Wade, Desert Vista
- 1997..... Brandon Falkner, Peoria
- 1996..... Rashad Bauman, South Mountain
- 1995..... Mike Brown, Scottsdale Saguaro
- 1994..... Eric Johnson, Alhambra
- 1993..... Corey Hill, Sabino
- 1992..... Mitchell Freedman, Maryvale
- 1991..... James Richardson, Bradshaw Mountain (jr)
- 1990..... Eddie Cade, Santa Cruz
- 1989..... Billy Burris, Florence
- 1988..... Mike Salmon, Greenway
- 1987..... Tyrone Byrd, Chandler
- 1986..... Nathan LaDuke, Alhambra
- 1985..... Cleveland Colter Jr., McClintock
- 1984..... John Giaspie, Central
- 1983..... Anthony Parker, McClintock
- 1982..... Chuck Nixon, Shadow Mountain
- 1981..... Shawn Benson, Mesa Mountain View
- 1980..... George Duarte, Sunnyside (jr)
- 1979..... Mossy Cade, Santa Cruz
- 1978..... Jeff Colter, Amphitheater
- 1977..... Charles Cobbs, Florence
- 1976..... Felix Kelson, South Mountain
- 1975..... David Given, McClintock
- 1974..... Harold Smith, Florence
- 1973..... Rob Wilson, Coronado
- 1972..... Carl Russell, McNary
- 1971..... Danny Smith, Safford (jr)
- 1970..... Derral Davis, Tucson
- 1969..... Dick Harris, Westwood (jr)
- 1968..... Joe Petroschus, Tucson
- 1967..... Rudy Quihuis, Pueblo
- 1966..... Bill Diple, Arcadia
- 1965..... Bill Diple, Arcadia (jr)
- 1964..... LeRoy Peoples, Marana
- 1963..... Earliest Nelson, South Mountain
- 1962..... James Dugan, Flagstaff (jr)
- 1961..... Elby Bushong, Washington
- 1960..... Luther Harper, Phoenix Union
- 1959..... Jim Sims, Tucson (jr)

Selections made by the editorial staff of the

PHOENIX METRO, SOUTHERN ARIZONA AND NORTHERN ARIZONA

Football Magazines

1A State Championship Bracket

2006 Season in Review, Sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield

Fri., Oct. 27th

Sat., Nov. 4th

Sat., Nov. 11th

Canyon State (C#1)

Ft. Thomas (SE#3)

Mogollon (N#2)

Valley Union (SE#2)

Pima (SE#1)

Bagdad (C#3)

Superior (C#2)

Mayer (N#1)

Canyon State
(54-20)

Apache Junction HS
7:30 pm

Mogollon
(52-32)

Mogollon
(52-14)

Apache Junction HS
7:00 pm

Mayer
(28-20)

Pima
(52-8)

Apache Junction HS
4:30 pm

Mayer
(52-38)

Mayer
(62-6)



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CARDINALS**





*The Scottsdale Quarterback Club
Congratulates Arizona's Player of the Year,*
EVERSON GRIFFEN

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ARIZONA'S HIGH SCHOOL *Player of the Year*



ARIZONA HIGH SCHOOL PLAYER OF THE YEAR, EVERSON GRIFFEN, WAS SELECTED BY THE EDITORIAL STAFF OF THE PHOENIX METRO, NORTHERN ARIZONA AND SOUTHERN ARIZONA FOOTBALL MAGAZINES. HE IS PICTURED HERE WITH AGUA FRIA'S HEAD FOOTBALL COACH KELLY EPLEY (LEFT) AND ATHLETIC DIRECTOR STEPHANIE VALCHIN (RIGHT).

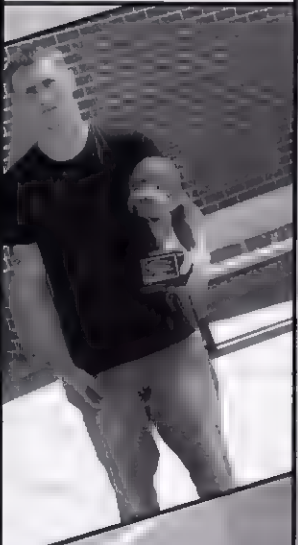
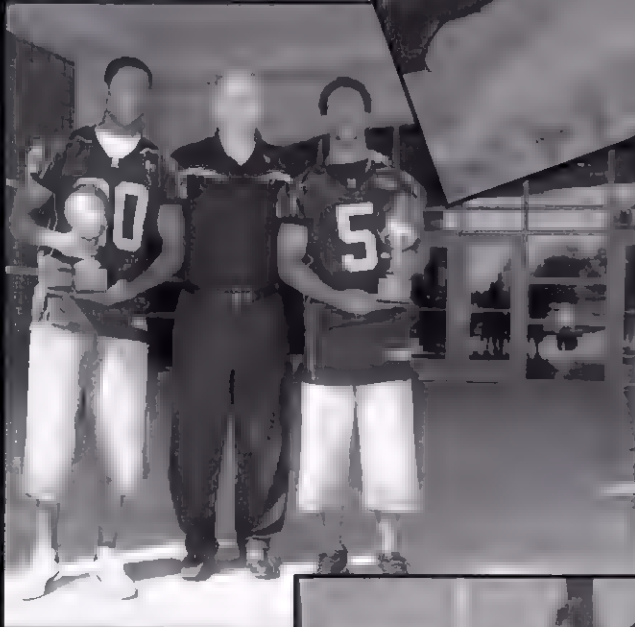
2006EVERSON GRIFFEN
.....AGUA FRIA (RB DL)
2005KYLE WILLIAMS
.....CHAPARRAL (RB/KR)
2004MATT CLAPP
.....PARADISE VALLEY (RB/LB)
2003ZACH MILLER
.....DESERT VISTA (TE/LB)
2002MARCUS THOMAS
.....TOLLESON (RB)
2001MIKE NIXON
.....SUNNYSLOPE (QB/DB)
2000MIKE BELL
.....TOLLESON (RB)
1999TERRELL SUGGS
.....HAMILTON (RB)
1998BOBBY WADE
.....DESERT VISTA (RB/DB)
1997NATHAN WIZE
.....SABINO (RB)
1996JUSTIN TAPLIN
.....TEMPE (WR/KR)
1995MIKE BROWN
.....SCOTTSDALE SAGUARO (RB DB)

1994TAVON COOPER
.....PEORIA (RB/RS)
1993KEVIN SCHMIDTKE
.....MARANA MTN. VIEW (RB)
1992MIKE MITCHELL
.....BROPHY PREP (RB)
1991CHRIS HOPKINS
.....SALPOINTE (RB)
1990MARIO BATES
.....AMPHITHEATER (RB)
1989BRIAN DREW
.....MCCLINTOCK (RB)
1988ERIC DRAGE
.....SANTA RITA (WR)
1987KEVIN CALBREATH
.....MARYVALE (RB)
1986BOBBY VALDEZ
.....SUNNYSIDE (QB)
1985CLEVELAND COLTER
.....MCCLINTOCK (RB)
1984STEVE BELLES
.....ST. MARY'S (QB)
1983ANTHONY PARKER
.....MCCLINTOCK (RB)

1982RODNEY PEETE (JR)
.....TUCSON SAHUARO (QB)
1981STAN GILL
.....FLAGSTAFF (RB)
1980FRED SIMS
.....SUNNYSIDE (RB)
1979MOSSY CADE
.....SANTA CRUZ (DB)
1978MIKE CADE
.....SANTA CRUZ (RB)
1977ALVIN MOORE
.....COOLIDGE (TB)
TIERIKI GRAY
.....AMPHITHEATER (LB)
1976GREG BRADY
.....CORONADO (QB)
1975BRIAN FELIX
.....PHOENIX UNION (RB)
1974DAVID MITCHELL (JR)
.....ST. MARY'S (RB)
TIEJIMMY MOORE
.....MARCOS DE NIZA (TE DE)
1973ROB WILSON
.....CORONADO (QB/DB)

1972JESSE PARKER
.....RINCON (RB)
1971FRED MORTENSEN
.....TEMPE (QB)
1970BILL CROWE
.....MCCLINTOCK (LB)
1969BENNY MALONE
.....SANTA CRUZ (RB)
1968JOE PETROSHUS
.....TUCSON (HB)
1967TIM SMITH
.....ST. MARY'S (RB)
1966BOB SOZA
.....WESTWOOD (TB)
TIEBILL DAWSON
.....TUCSON (OT/DT)
1965ART MALONE
.....SANTA CRUZ (TB)
1964LEROY PEOPLES
.....MARANA (HB)
1963JAMES DUGAN
.....FLAGSTAFF (HB DB)
1962EVERETT ROLLINS
.....ARCADIA (HB)

HANDIN' OUT THE HARDWARE



2006 Individual Awards

as selected by the Kukulski Brothers Editorial Staff

Arizona Coach of the Year	Richard Taylor, Centennial
State Player of the Year	Everson Griffen, Agua Fria
Phoenix Metro Player of the Year	Everson Griffen, Agua Fria
Northern Arizona Player of the Year	James Brooks, Flagstaff
Southern Arizona Player of the Year	Kris O'Dowd, Salpointe
Arizona Quarterback of the Year	Phillip Aholt, Cactus Shadows
State Running Back of the Year	Prince Amukamara, Apollo
Arizona Receiver of the Year	Kerry Taylor, Hamilton
State Lineman of the Year	Kris O'Dowd, Salpointe
Arizona Linebacker of the Year	Zach Holmes, Sunnyside
State Defensive Back of the Year	Glenn Love, Hamilton
Arizona Kicker of the Year	Alex Zendejas, Ironwood
State Underclassman of the Year	Dion Jordan, Chandler
Pinal County Player of the Year	Jesse Wheeler, Coolidge
Yuma County Player of the Year	Brandon Hall, Cibola
City Player of the Year for Chandler	Cameron Jordan, Chandler
City Player of the Year for Gilbert	Kyle Newhall-Caballero, Gilbert
City Player of the Year for Glendale	Prince Amukamara, Apollo
City Co-Player of the Year for Mesa	(tie) Ridge Nielsen, Mountain View
City Co-Player of the Year for Mesa	(tie) Riley Nielsen, Mountain View
City Player of the Year for Peoria	Tom Ramsey, Centennial
City Player of the Year for Scottsdale	Max Tabach, Saguaro
City Player of the Year for Tempe	Harrison Evens, Marcos de Niza

Our 2006 Arizona Underclassman of the Year!



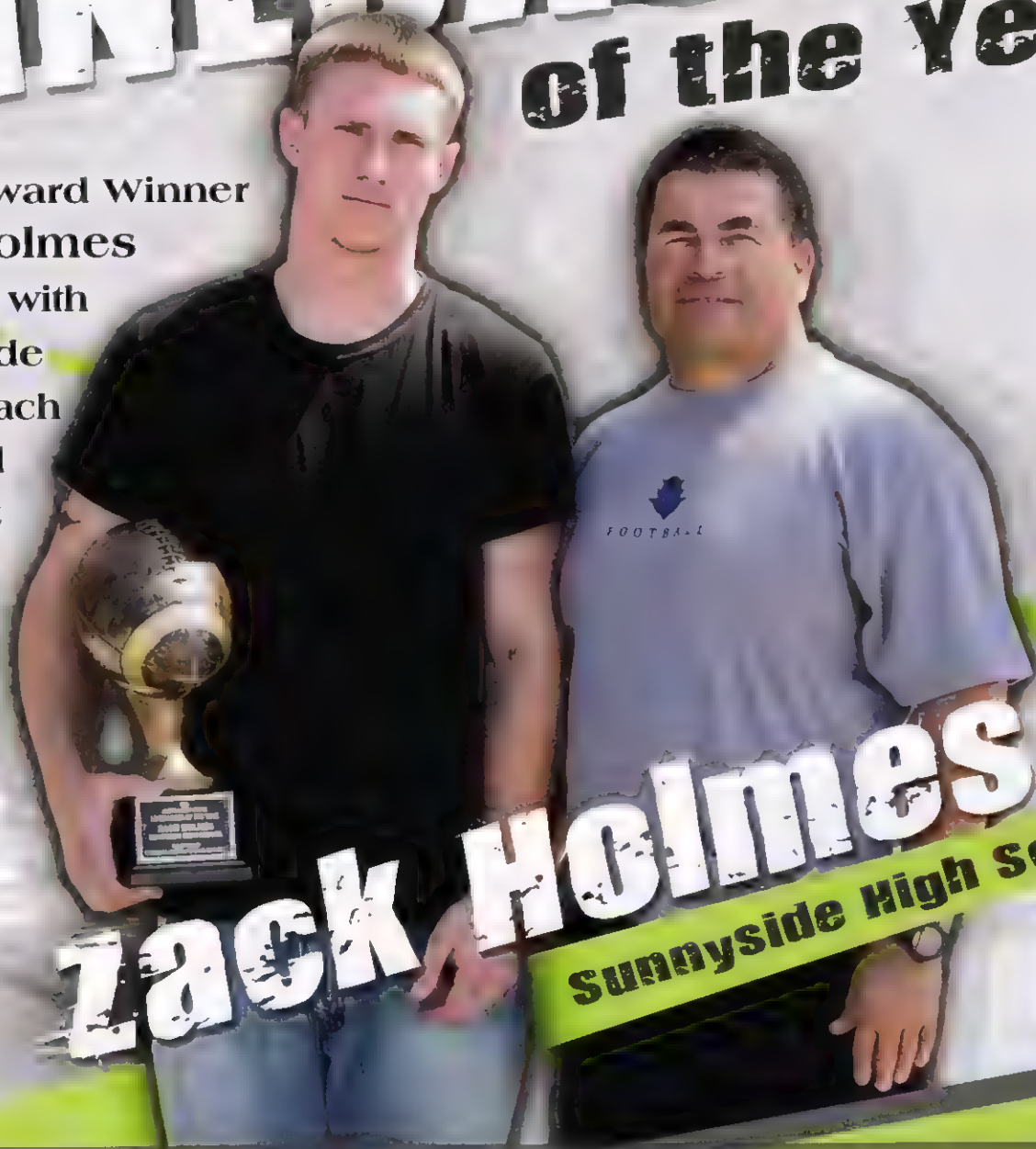
Congratulations **DION JORDAN**
of Chandler High School.

Selection made by the editorial staff of
the Phoenix Metro, Northern Arizona and Southern Arizona Football Magazines.

Honoring Arizona's High School

LINEBACKER of the Year

2006 Award Winner
Zach Holmes
is shown with
Sunnyside
Head Coach
**Richard
Sanchez**



Zach Holmes

Sunnyside High School

2006 .. Zach Holmes, Sunnyside
2005 .. Gerald Munns, Hamilton
2004 .. Matt Clapp, Paradise Valley
2003 .. Zach Miller, Desert Vista
2002 .. Brent Miller, Desert Vista
2001 .. Adam Moro, Blue Ridge
2000 .. David Coronado, Sunnyside
1999 .. Austin Sendlein, Chaparral
1998 .. Brian Gaffney, Brophy Prep
1997 .. Mike Miller, Arizona Boys Ranch
1996 .. Cody Price, Westwood
1995 .. Steve Trejo, Casa Grande
1994 .. Jeff Johnson, Peoria
1993 .. Randy Hakes, Arcadia
1992 .. Jim Sprotte, Blue Ridge

1991 .. Jon McGee, Tucson Sahuaro
1990 .. Aaron Franklin, Peoria
1989 .. Daniel Taplin, Tempe
1988 .. Luke Davis, Dobson
1987 .. Jeremiah Clark, Mesa
1986 .. Odel Stewart, Buena
1985 .. Bob Davis, Mesa Mountain View
1984 .. Craig Davis, Canyon del Oro
1983 .. Tim Hicks, Sunnyslope
1982 .. Randall McDaniel, Agua Fria
1981 .. Darin Tupper, Trevor Browne
1980 .. Jimmy Williams, Tempe
1979 .. Todd Shell, Mesa Mountain View
1978 .. Kurt Whiteman, Scottsdale

1977 .. Riki Gray, Tucson
1973 .. Richard Rucker, Canyon del Oro
1972 .. Tim Petersen, Ajo
1971 .. Larry Gordon, Phoenix Union
1970 .. Bob Breunig, Alhambra
..... (TIE) Bill Crowe, McClintock
1969 .. Bill Crowe, McClintock (jr)
1968 .. Larry Delbridge, Coolidge
1967 .. Jeff Quinn, Westwood
1966 .. Jay Ray Rokey, Westwood
1965 .. Bill Owsley, North
1964 .. Ron Hendrix, Camelback
1963 .. Dana Woudenberg, Arcadia
1962 .. Fred Carr, Phoenix Union (jr)
1961 .. Ross Shannon, North

Selection made by the editorial staff of the Phoenix Metro,
Southern Arizona, and Northern Arizona Football Magazines.



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Arizona Linebacker of the Year

ZACH HOLMES

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GAME OF THE WEEK
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August 23rd
Kickoff Classic (Salpointe vs Brophy)

August 30th
Bourgade Catholic at Northwest Christian

August 31st
Independence at Sabino

September 6th
Centennial at Hamilton

September 13th
Tempe at McClintock

September 14th
Sunnyside at Central

September 20th
Brophy at Mountain View

September 27th
Mingus at Sandra Day O'Connor

September 28th
Canyon del Oro at Cienega

October 4th
Saguaro at Cactus Shadows

October 11th
Red Mountain at Westwood

October 18th
Skyline vs Horizon

October 25th
Ironwood at Westview

October 26th
Buena at Salpointe

November 1st
Basha at Corona del Sol

November 9th
Playoff Round 1

November 16th
Playoff Round 2

November 23rd
(Playoff game or 2A/3A Championship)

November 24th
(2A/3A Championship)

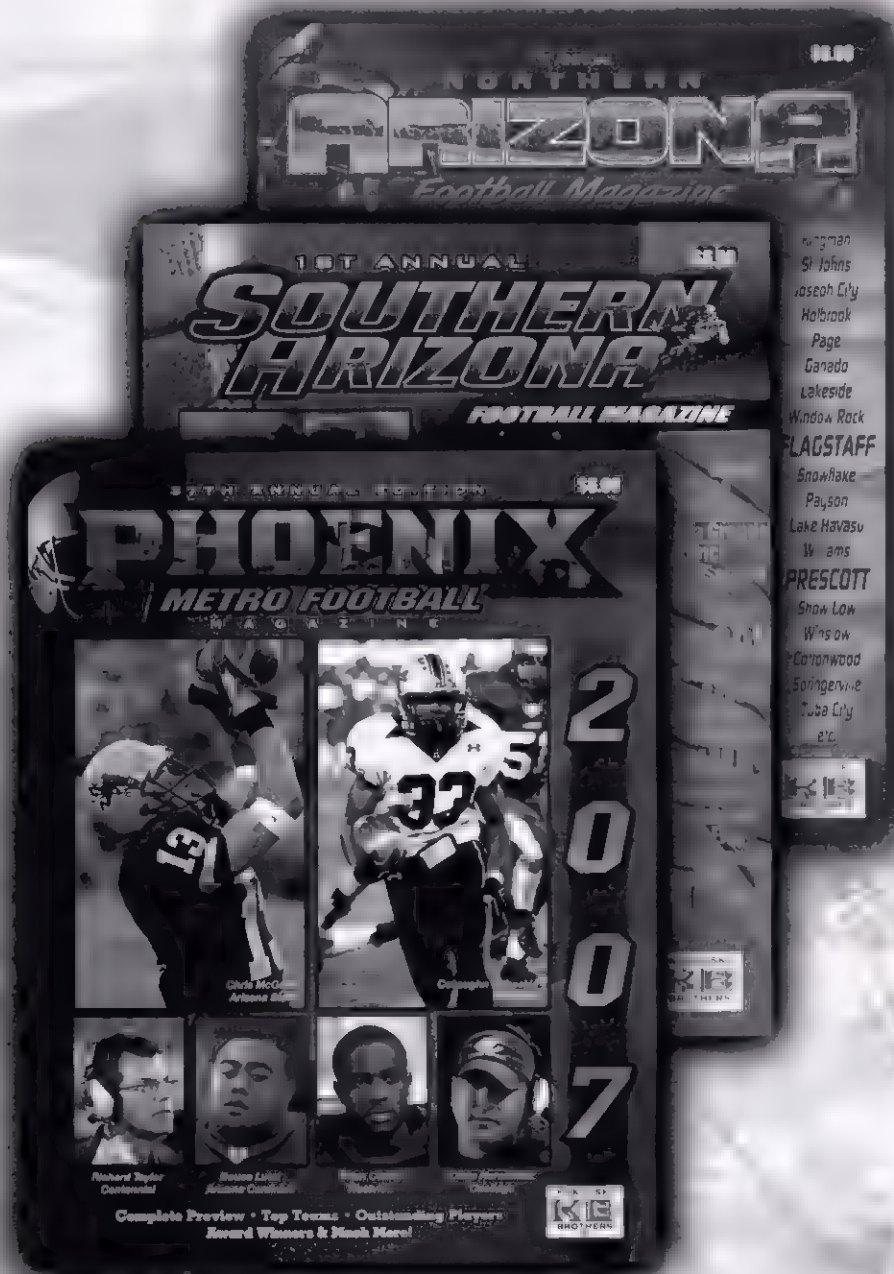
December 1st
(4A-2/5A-2 Championship at University of Phoenix Stadium)

December 8th
(4A-1/5A-1 Championship at University of Phoenix Stadium)

Teams and Sites subject to change. Additional games may be added to the schedule at a later date

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ARIZONA'S KICKER OF THE YEAR



Arizona High School Kicker of the Year, Alex Zendejas of Ironwood High School, was selected by the editorial staff of the Phoenix Metro, Northern Arizona and Southern Arizona Football Magazines.

- 2006..... Alex Zendejas, Ironwood
- 2005..... Ezra Ricks, Cactus
- 2004..... Kyle Day, Sahuarita
- 2003..... Bubbá Bradley, Cactus
- 2002..... Esteban Bayona, Marana de Niza
- 2001..... Erik Contos, Red Mountain
- 2000..... Ryan Slack, Salpointe Catholic
- 1999..... Scott Lane, Chaparral
- 1998..... Ramey Peru, Dobson
- 1997..... Josh Lane, Phoenix Christian
- 1996..... Jeremy Kelley, Mesa Mountain View
- 1995..... Jim Sanson, St. Mary's
- 1994..... Jim Sanson, St. Mary's
- 1993..... Matt Belden, Glendale
- 1992..... Marcus Williams, McClintock
- 1991..... Matt Peyton, Tucson Sal
- TIE..... Dominic DeMark, Prescott
- 1990..... Cole Ford, Orofino
- 1989..... Tom Belden, Glendale
- 1988..... Jeff Black, Tucson Sahuaro
- 1987..... Steve Rausch, Dobson
- 1986..... Quin Rodriguez, Dobson
- 1985..... Mike Cortright, St. Mary's
- 1984..... Mike Schuh, Mesa Mountain View
- 1983..... Phil Insalaco, Phoenix Christian
- 1982..... Richard Jones, Chaparral
- 1981..... Jerry Necoechea, Bisbee
- 1980..... Jerry Necoechea, Bisbee
- 1979..... Tom Wood, Washington
- 1978..... Bill Zivic, Palo Verde
- 1977..... Bill Zivic, Palo Verde
- 1976..... Kevin Rutledge, Gilbert
- 1975..... Monte Varah, Scottsdale Saguaro
- 1974..... Gary Williams, Blue Ridge
- 1973..... Lee Pistor, Central
- 1972..... Pat Whitehurst, North
- 1971..... Pat Hawbaker, St. Mary's
- 1970..... Jeff Hernandez, Miami
- 1969..... Danny White, Westwood
- 1968..... Cleveland Colter, Marana
- 1967..... Luis Vega, Phoenix West
- TIE..... Marty Shuford, Scottsdale Saguaro
- 1966..... Luis Vega, Phoenix West
- 1965..... Jim McCann, North
- 1964..... Ron Hendrix, Camelback
- 1963..... Sam Maya, Glendale
- 1962..... Tom Lindsey, Marana
- 1961..... Tom Crater, Gilbert

Is This THE Year for the Cardinals?

WHISENHUNT TAKES OVER AS HEAD COACH

Obviously, the Cardinals didn't enjoy much success in 2006. Fans of professional football teams that win five and lose 11 have very little to celebrate, with rare exceptions.

Management wasn't too thrilled either. At season's end, Coach Dennis Green was fired and the Ken Whisenhunt era began. Certainly, Whisenhunt has a great reputation in the league, having served on the coaching staff of the Pittsburgh Steelers for the past six years. And he brought along Russ Grimm to serve as his assistant head coach; Grimm is widely regarded as one of the top offensive line coaches in football.

It isn't as though the Cardinals don't have talent. In fact, that shaky 5-11 ledger could easily have been 8-8 or better, if Arizona had just closed out some games they let get away. Bitter early-season home losses to St. Louis (16-14), Kansas City (23-20) and Chicago (24-23) left fans shaking their heads in disbelief as they exited brand-new University of Phoenix Stadium.

Can they get it right? Start with second-year quarterback Matt Leinart. Green benched veteran Kurt Warner when the club started slowly. In the middle of a devastating seven-game losing streak, Leinart got the nod. He completed nearly 57% of his passes, threw for over 2,500 yards, but finished with more interceptions (12) than touchdowns (11). Warner contributed another 1,377 yards passing, but he was far from spectacular.

Leinart must become the quarterback the Cardinals envisioned when they drafted him. And the sooner the better. Because the franchise needs a great quarterback so badly, Arizona fans are hoping Leinart can grow up quickly.

He has a great pair of wideouts in Anquan Bolden and Larry Fitzgerald. They combined for 152 receptions for 2,149 yards and 10 six-pointers in 2006. And their numbers were down! Remember Fitzgerald missed nearly half of last season due to injury. In 2005, the pair totaled 205 catches for 2,811 yards and 17 TDs.

Former Indianapolis Colt Edgerrin James was signed last year to energize the rushing attack. The results were so-so. Yes, James gained his 1,000 yards, but he averaged just 3.4 yards per carry and his long-gainer of the year was 18 yards.

Everyone knows Arizona has been extremely disappointing in the offensive line. Big Leonard Davis left for Dallas and the

Cardinals brought in a couple of notable free agents (Mike Gandy and Al Johnson), along with first-round pick Levi Brown of Penn State to shore things up. It looks as though second-year pro Deuce Lutui is a keeper on the OL too.

Grimm just needs to work his magic with this group.

Defensively, the Cardinals gave up 24 points and 349 yards in total offense per game. While not horrible, Whisenhunt will be looking for substantial improvement here too.

Veteran safety Adrian Wilson is a playmaker and



The Cardinals went with rookie Matt Leinart at quarterback for most of the 2006 campaign. The former Heisman Trophy winner had his moments, throwing for 2,547 yards and 11 scores. But, for Arizona to post a winning record and have a shot at the playoffs, Coach Whisenhunt and crew will need Leinart to improve on those numbers in 2007 (Paynter Pics).

was named to the Pro Bowl last season for the first time in his career. He wound up with 82 tackles, five sacks, four interceptions and two fumble recoveries on the year.

Who else will step up? Will youngsters like LB Gerald Hayes, LB Karlos Dansby, CB Antrel Rolle, DT Darnell Dockett, S Aaron Francisco, etc. get the job done? Can DE Bertrand Berry make it through a full season and avoid major injuries? Defensive coordinator Clancy Pendergast was retained by Whisenhunt and is widely respected.

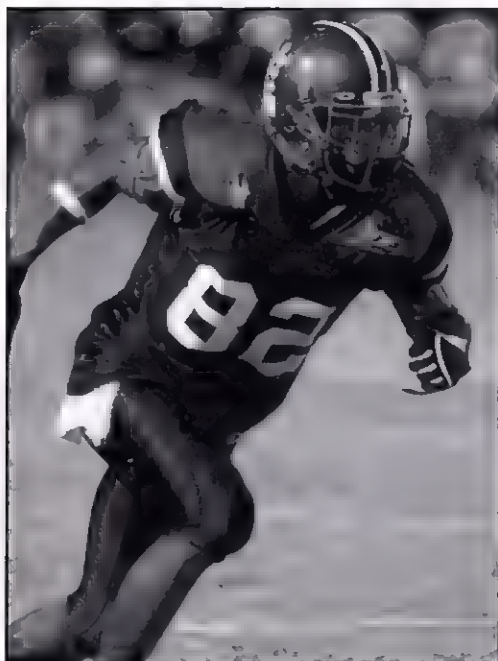
NFL football is known as a field-position game. Can the defense come together and give Leinart and that evolving Arizona offense a short field to the red zone?

How about a few smiles for those Big Red boosters leaving that beautiful stadium this year?

2007 Schedule

Sept. 10.....at San Francisco 49ers
 Sept. 16.....Seattle Seahawks
 Sept. 23.....at Baltimore Ravens
 Sept. 30.....Pittsburgh Steelers
 Oct. 7.....at St. Louis Rams
 Oct. 14.....Carolina Panthers
 Oct. 21.....at Washington Redskins
 Oct. 28.....BYE
 Nov. 4.....at Tampa Bay Buccaneers
 Nov. 11.....Detroit Lions
 Nov. 18.....at Cincinnati Bengals
 Nov. 25.....San Francisco 49ers
 Dec. 2.....Cleveland Browns
 Dec. 9.....at Seattle Seahawks
 Dec. 16.....at New Orleans Saints
 Dec. 23.....Atlanta Falcons
 Dec. 30.....St. Louis Rams

2006 All-Arizona Honorees



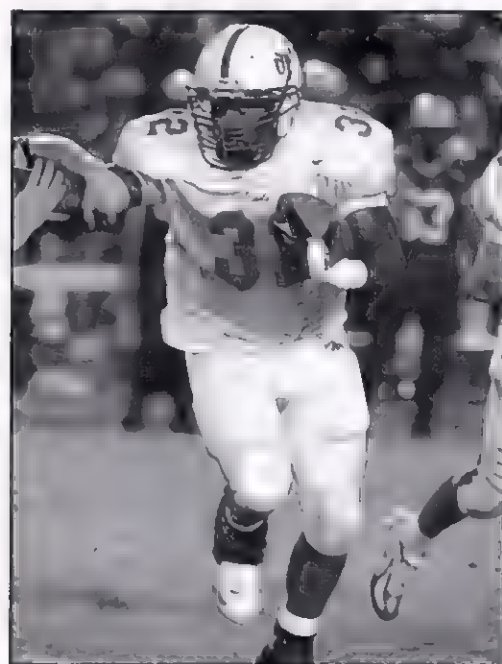
Chandler's Dion Jordan was one of five juniors to make our All-Arizona team in 2006 (Paynter Pics).

OFFENSIVE TEAM

QB	Phillip Aholt, Cactus Shadows, 6-4, 210, Sr.
QB	Riley Nielsen, Mesa Mountain View, 6-1, 220, Sr.
RB	Prince Amukamara, Apollo, 6-1, 185, Sr.
RB	Covaughn Deboskie, Hamilton, 5-11, 180, Jr.
RB	Ray Polk, Brophy Prep, 6-1, 190, Jr.
WR	T.R. Simpson, Peoria, 6-2, 175, Sr.
WR	Kerry Taylor, Hamilton, 6-1, 180, Sr.
WR	Kyle Watkins, Cactus Shadows, 6-4, 215, Sr.
TE	Dion Jordan, Chandler, 6-6, 215, Jr.
OL	Blake Behrens, Brophy Prep, 6-4, 280, Sr.
OL	Javario Burkes, Moon Valley, 6-5, 325, Sr.
OL	Marcel Jones, Trevor Browne, 6-8, 310, Sr.
OL	Kris O'Dowd, Salpointe Catholic, 6-4, 300, Sr.
OL	Zach Schlink, Centennial, 6-5, 280, Jr.
K	Alex Zendejas, Ironwood, 6-0, 170, Sr.

DEFENSIVE TEAM

DL	James Brooks, Flagstaff, 6-6, 260, Sr.
DL	Everson Griffen, Agua Fria, 6-4, 253, Sr.
DL	Cameron Jordan, Chandler, 6-4, 255, Sr.
DL	Ridge Nielsen, Mesa Mountain View, 6-1, 230, Sr.
DL	Tom Ramsey, Centennial, 5-11, 268, Sr.
LB	Jeff Alder, Wickenburg, 5-11, 175, Sr.
LB	Kyle Flannery, Basha, 5-10, 185, Sr.
LB	Zach Holmes, Sunnyside, 5-10, 195, Sr.
DB	Jeffrey Hughes, Centennial, 5-11, 193, Jr.
DB	Glenn Love, Hamilton, 6-4, 205, Sr.
DB	Max Tabach, Saguardo, 6-2, 170, Sr.
DB	Jesse Wheeler, Coolidge, 5-10, 165, Sr.
DB	T.J. White, Coolidge, 5-10, 175, Sr.
P	Jimmy Klingensmith, Marcos de Niza, 6-2, 200, Sr.
KR	Warren Johnson, Centennial, 5-9, 145, Sr.



Agua Fria's Everson Griffen was an outstanding two-way performer for the Owls. He's arguably the most recruited player in our state's history (Paynter Pics).

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O'CONNOR HIGH SCHOOL

2007 Varsity Schedule

8/31 Paradise Valley
9/7 Agua Fria
9/14 @ Cholla
9/20 @ Cactus
9/27 Mingus
10/5 @ Independence
10/12 Thunderbird
10/19 @ Sunnyslope
10/26 @ Prescott
11/2 Apollo

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Congratulations to

ARIZONA'S LINEMAN OF THE YEAR

KRIS O'DOWD

2008 Kris O'Dowd, Salpointe Catholic (DL)
2005 Jon Hargis, Red Mountain (DL)
2004 Daniel Borg, Ironwood Ridge (DL)
2003 John Kadous, Salpointe Catholic (DL)
2002 Kyle Caldwell, Scottsdale Saguaro (DL)
2001 Loren Howard, Scottsdale Saguaro (DL)
2000 Richie Incognito, Mountain Ridge (OT)
1999 Josh Kirkwood, Maryvale (DL)
1998 Brandon Phillips, Corona del Sol (OT)
1997 Mike Saffer, Sabino (OT)
1996 Ralph Zarate, Tucson (OT)
TIE Brian Kula, Brophy Prep (DL)
1995 Chris Watkins, Highland (DL)
1994 Matt Griffith, Mesa (NG)
1993 Todd Thompson, Tucson Sahuaro (DL)
1992 John Tait, McClintock (OT)
1991 Willie Walker, Desert View (DL)
1990 Grady Stretz, McClintock (DL)
1989 Mike Ciasca, Tucson Sahuaro (OT)
1988 Eric Ipock, Peoria (OT)
1987 Richard Griffith, Catalina (DL)
1986 Tim Landers, Round Valley (OT)
1985 Gary Pay, Apollo (T)
1984 Vincent Byrd, Santa Cruz (DT)
1983 Steve Spurling, Horizon (C)
1982 Richard Bear, Moon Valley (DT)
1981 Frank Rudolph, Coronado (DL)
1980 Tom Briehl, Gerard (T)
1979 Dave Wood, Washington (DL)
1978 Doug Kellermeyer, Coronado (DL)
1977 Marty Van Gorder, Chandler (C)
1976 Jack Housely, Maryvale (DL)
1975 Phil Hedrick, Maryvale (T)
1974 Jimmy Moore, Marcos de Niza (DL)
1973 Jon Abbott, Central (T)
1972 Keith Sobraske, Coronado (T)
1971 Mike Dawson, Tucson (T)
1970 Glen Gresham, Phoenix Union (OT)
1969 Roger Kronberg, Tempe (OT)
1968 Fernie Mendoza, Salpointe Catholic (T)
1967 Ken Hatcher, Mesa (C)
1966 Bill Dawson, Tucson (T)
1965 Bill Dawson, Tucson (T) jr.
1964 Richard Griffin, Westwood (OT)
1963 Curley Culp, Yuma (NG)
1962 Gary Swift, Arcadia (T)
TIE Bob Bertelsen, Arcadia (T)
1961 Allen Thorn, St. Mary's (C)
1960 Ted Lawrence, South Mountain (G)
1959 Dennis Couse, Tucson (T)



Arizona High School Lineman of the Year, Kris O'Dowd, was selected by the editorial staff of the Phoenix Metro, Northern Arizona and Southern Arizona Football Magazines. He is pictured here with Salpointe Catholic Head Football Coach Dennis Bene.

Barry Sollenberger's

*Impact on High School Football in
Arizona Is Remarkable!*



On August 25, 2006, at Sun Devil Stadium, Cox 7 and the AIA staged the first Kickoff Classic celebrating Barry Sollenberger. Hamilton won the game, beating Red Mountain by a 21-7 score.*

COX 7-AZ



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Celebrating Barry Sollenberger

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Phoenix Metro Football Magazine

from the Kukulski Family



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